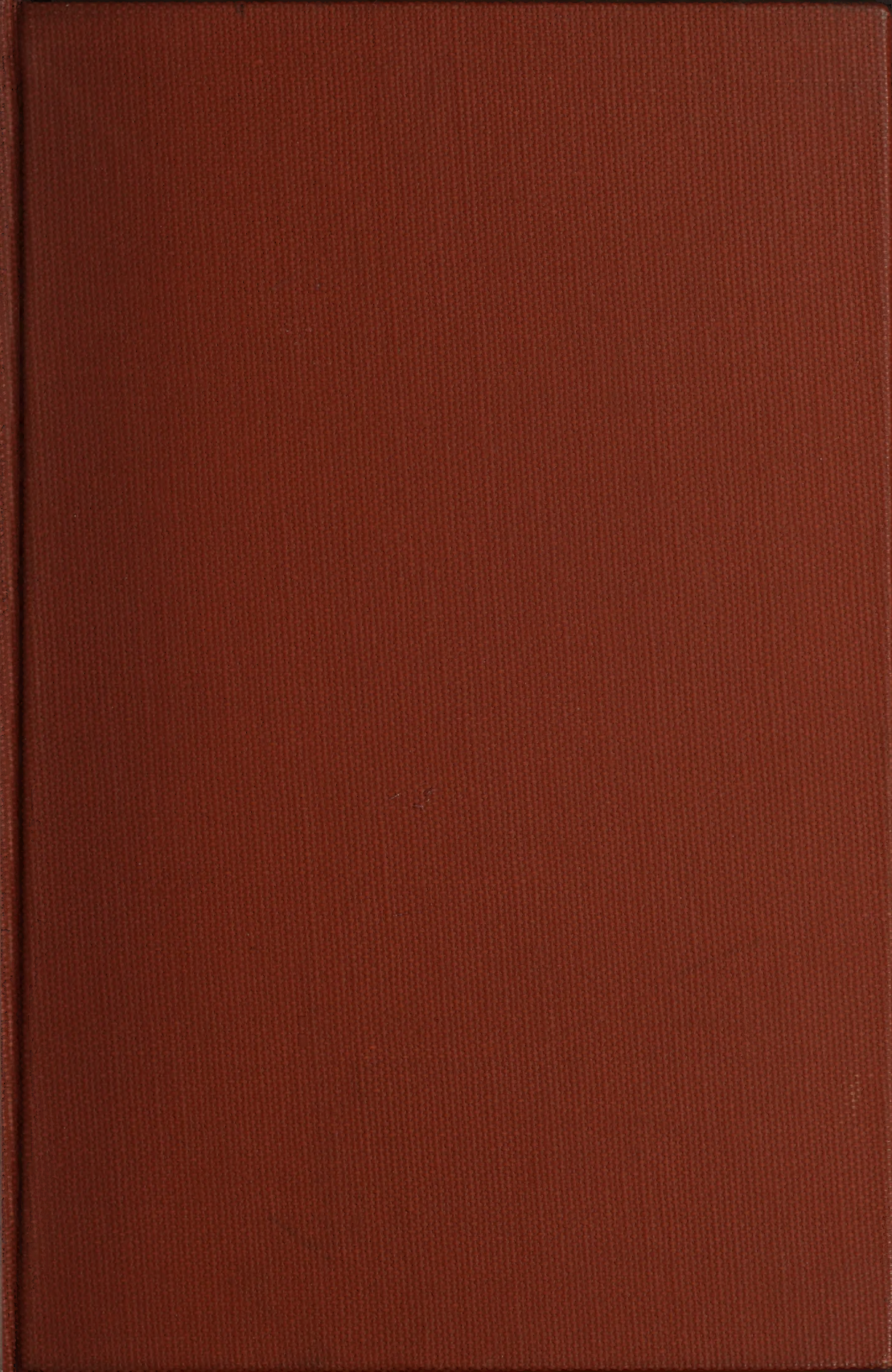




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FRANK H. STEWART

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FOREWORD

The great migration of Quakers from all parts of the British Isles, and from Bermuda, the Bahamas, and the English islands of the West Indies, to New Jersey, began in 1675.

For many years previous to that date, the English government had made life unendurable for Quakers and other dissenters from the Established Church. They were badgered, persecuted, and heavily fined for not attending and contributing to the Church of England. They were imprisoned in irons for not reporting for military duty, and jails all over the British Isles and the West Indies were full of Quakers, men and women, who were convicted of attending meetings in defiance of the law. In addition to this legal punishment, personal indignities and injuries were suffered, not only from representatives of the law, but from the general populace.

The Pilgrims and the Puritans began their migration to New England a half-century earlier, for similar reasons.

In 1675, southern New Jersey was but sparsely settled. There were a number of Swedish farmers along both sides of the Delaware, and a few Dutch settlers had drifted down from the region around New Amsterdam. But, in a general way, west New Jersey, from the falls of the Delaware south, was virgin territory, covered with a forest of noble oaks and pines. The settlers, in their letters to their friends in England, spoke of their homes as being "in the woods." As late as 1834, Barnsboro was "on the edge of the forest."

So, when Fenwick and Byllinge advertised farms and homesteads in Jersey, and William Penn, in the new land of Pennsylvania, the messages fell upon eager ears. Fenwick, in person, with a ship-load of his family and friends landed at what is now Salem, in 1675, and about two years later another shipload of "Adventurers," as

they called themselves, settled farther up the Delaware and called their new home Bridlington, or Burlington.

From then on, the colonies grew rapidly. The colonists pushed northward and southward, and soon the entire Delaware River frontage and the banks of the various creeks were taken up. Before the days of roads, the river and the creeks were the only means of transportation and communication.

Burlington County was quickly organized, with the necessary officers and records, and in 1686, the County of Gloucester was formally organized. It comprised the territory between Pensauken Creek and Oldmans Creek.

The original Record Book of the Gloucester County Court, a priceless record of the past, is carefully preserved in the office of the County Clerk, in Woodbury. It covers the period from May 28, 1686, to June 1, 1703.

On the 17th day of April, 1702, the Proprietors surrendered to the crown their rights of government, retaining only their interest in the soil, but owing to difficulties of communication, the transfer was not consummated until more than a year later.

East and West Jersey were then united and the two provinces became the royal colony of New Jersey.

Gloucester County remained primarily a Quaker colony for many years, and even up to the present day the Quaker influence is strongly felt. Many of the original names are still represented in the various Quaker meetings and in other religious societies.

Mr. Stewart and Mr. Archut, by extracting the more interesting items from these old records, and the Gloucester County Historical Society, by the publication of this booklet, have rendered a great service to students of early New Jersey history.

LOUIS B. MOFFETT,

Vice-President,

Gloucester County Historical Society

Pre-English Settlers

During the time of the Dutch on the Delaware River they called it the South River and their settlements, including Fort Nassau, erected in 1923 below the mouth of Big Timber Creek were considered a part of New Netherlands. Its capital New Amsterdam is now New York City. Peter Stuyvesant was one of its Governors.

The Swedes came to the Delaware in 1638. They called their settlements New Sweden. Its capital was Tinicum Island and John Printz was its most celebrated governor. The Dutch conquered the Swedes by a bloodless argument in 1655 and they in turn were forced to capitulate to the English in 1664. Between 1664 and 1675 or until John Fenwick founded the first permanent English speaking settlement on the Delaware there were very few English here in West New Jersey. It has been estimated there were approximately one thousand Dutch and Swedes in all, on the Delaware, mostly on the western shore in 1675. There were probably less than one hundred on the New Jersey side in 1675.

The Dutch and Swedes both bought land of the Indians. It is evident that the practice was well established when the first English settlers arrived and continued it. In the opinion of capable historians every acre of land in both East and West New Jersey was bought of the Indians and paid for in accordance with the agreements. The Indian land deeds of Southern New Jersey were published by the Gloucester County Historical Society in "Indians of Southern New Jersey" in 1932.

The Proprietors' purchases from the Indians in 1677 for some of the territory of Old Gloucester County are copied herewith.

Indian Deed for the Upper Half of Old Gloucester County

The Indian Deed for the land between the midstream of Rancocus Creek and the midstream of Big Timber Creek was signed by six Indian Chiefs September 10, 1677, Old Style.

The consideration was:

- 46 fathoms of duffields
- 30 blankets
- 150 lbs. of powder
- 30 guns
- 30 bars of lead
- 30 flints
- 200 fathoms of wampum
- 30 kettles
- 30 axes
- 30 small hoes
- 30 awls
- 30 needles
- 30 looking glasses
- 30 pairs of stockings
- 7 anchors of brandy
- 30 knives
- 36 rings
- 30 jewsharps
- 30 combs
- 30 bracelets
- 30 bells
- 30 tobacco tongs
- 30 pairs of scissors
- 12 tobacco boxes
- 10 pewter spoonfuls of paint
- 100 fish hooks
- 144 pipes

This deed covered the third tenth with the exception that its northern boundary was Pensauken instead of Rancocus Creek.

Indian Deed for the Lower Half of Old Gloucester County or the Fourth Tenth of West New Jersey

The Indian Deed for the land between the midstream of Big Timber Creek and the midstream of Oldmans Creek was dated September 27, 1677, Old Style. It was signed by three Indians one of whom was the noted Indian King Mohocksey. The consideration was:

- 30 matchcoats
- 20 guns
- 30 bars of lead
- 15 small barrels of powder
- 30 kettles
- 1 Great kettle
- 30 pairs of hose
- 20 fathoms of duffels
- 30 petticoats
- 30 Indian axes

30 narrow hoes
 70 knives
 60 pairs of tobacco tongs
 60 scizzors
 60 tinshaw looking glasses
 70 combs
 120 awl blades
 120 fish hooks
 120 needles
 60 tobacco boxes
 120 pipes
 200 bells
 100 jewsharps
 2 grasps of red paint
 6 anchors of rum

The great kettle was undoubtedly for Mohocksey.

Earliest Courts

It should be recognized that the courts at New Castle and Upland across the Delaware river were in existence before the courts were established at Salem, Burlington, and Gloucester. There is evidence to show that the court at Salem settled some small local matters after 1676. The New Castle court exercised jurisdiction below Oldmans Creek and the Upland court northward.

When the Burlington court was organized in 1681 it also ruled in both the Third and Fourth Tenth. It was essential that the convenience of the inhabitants should be considered and the old courts on the other side of the river, remnants of the Dutch and Swedes, finally ceased their jurisdiction on the eastern side of the Delaware.

Tenth's Changed to Counties

The First and Second Tenth's became Burlington County, and the Third and Fourth Tenth's Old Gloucester County, afterward divided into Gloucester, Atlantic and Camden counties. In the beginning the settlements were all near the river and none on the ocean front. The Third Tenth was north of Big Timber Creek and the Fourth Tenth between it and Oldmans Creek. Fenwick's Colony was generally called the Salem Tenth.

The Third Tenth was sometimes called the upper side or half also the Irish Tenth because its first English speaking settlers were Irish immigrants.

First Laws

The "Concessions and Agreements" of the proprietors, freeholders and inhabitants of the Province of West New Jersey dated March 3, 1676 in England were the basis for its laws. Many settlers signed after their arrival.

Members and Sessions of The Legislature

The first session of the General Free Assembly of West New Jersey was held November 21, 1681 at Burlington and lasted seven days.

Those present from the Third Tenth at the session held May 2-6, 1682 were William Cooper, Thomas Thackara, Robert Zane and Mark Newbie. Thomas Sharp was appointed constable for the Third Tenth and Mark Newbie's half pence were made legal tender.

At the session of May 15, 1683 the assemblymen from the Third Tenth were William Cooper, Mark Newbie, Henry Stacy, Samuel Cole, Thomas Howell and William Bates. The last named was appointed constable. Henry Wood succeeded Henry Stacy and Robert Zane succeeded Mark Newbie, deceased, at the session of November 9, 1683.

The members from the Third Tenth elected by its people and reported at the session ending May 14, 1684 were William Cooper, Robert Turner, Francis Collins, Henry Treadway, Henry Wood, Marcus Lawrence and William Bates. Wood was not present. Francis Collins and Thomas Thackara were elected Justices of the Third Tenth and William Cooper and Isaac Marriott Justices of the Six Lower Tenth's. Robert Zane was constable of the Third Tenth and Hance Hopman of the Fourth Tenth. The Assemblymen of the Third Tenth present at the meeting ending May 13, 1685 were Thomas Sharp, Samuel Cole, Richard Russell, Richard Arnold and William Albertson. Samuel Carpenter and Robert Turner were absent. Those from the Fourth Tenth were Peter Dalbo and William Warner.

Francis Collins and Thomas Thackara were chosen Justices for the Third Tenth and Andrew Robeson Justice for the Fourth Tenth. Robert Zane was chosen Constable of the Third

Tenth and Anthony Nealson constable of the Fourth Tenth.

At the session of November 25, 1685 it was recorded that the representatives chosen for the Third Tenth were Robert Turner, Francis Collins, Thomas Howell, William Bates, John Reading, Robert Zane, John Hugg, Thomas Thackera, John Kay and William Cooper.

Those of the Fourth Tenth were Andrew Robeson, Israel Helme, Woolly Dalboe, Anthony Nealson, Benjamin Braman, Richard Lawrence, John Wood, William Warner, Henry Treadway and Thomas Matthews.

Our First Justices

Thomas Thackera and Francis Collins were chosen Justices of the Third Tenth and Andrew Robeson and Richard Lawrence Justices of the Fourth Tenth. Andrew Robeson was chosen a member. The Justices were continued when Gloucester County was created.

John Wood was appointed Justice in place of Richard Lawrence who asked to be dismissed. The latter was seventy years old and deaf. Thomas Sharp was appointed in place of Thomas Howell by request of the latter. Thackera, Collins, Robeson and Wood, thus became the first Justices of Old Gloucester County the next year when it was incorporated.

Town meetings had been held in the Third and Fourth Tenths April 20, 1685 O. S. and had elected those present and registered November 25, 1685.

The Proprietors of West Jersey, at first, (1681) tried to divide the Province into Ten Tenths or shares but the scheme was unworkable mainly because no surveys showing exact areas or acreages had been made.

The first proprietors received a receipt for a fractional part of a certain Tenth which entitled them to selected acreage previously untaken by other purchasers. Records were kept at Burlington.

The First and Second Tenths soon became Burlington county and the Third and Fourth Tenths became Old Gloucester County. The territory below was sometimes referred to as the Six Lower Tenths which included John Fenwick's Colony, commonly called the Salem Tenth which was later known as Salem county, included a

large part of Cumberland county.

A glance at a map of West Jersey will disclose why the plan of division into equal Tenths or hundredth parts was speedily dropped as being unreliable.

In the beginning the Legislature of West New Jersey appointed the civil authorities for the First, Second, Third and Fourth Tenths, and the Six Lower Tenths, including Salem Tenth after the objections of John Fenwick had ceased because of his death.

Leaming and Spicers book of laws shows the above mentioned appointments.

Burlington Court Records

Richard Guy and Edward Bradway were two of the nine commissioners for the Province of West Jersey by "common vote of the people" 1st mo., 25, 1681 for the term of one year.

William Emley was likewise chosen as sheriff for the province for the district between St. Pinck to Oldman's Creek. Thomas Revel was chosen Registrar for the same district. James Nevill was likewise selected as Registrar for the Province between Oldman's Creek and Cohansey and places adjacent.

Daniel Leeds, Surveyor

Daniel Leeds was appointed surveyor for the Province between St. Pinck and Oldman's Creek, by the commissioners. This included the First, Second, Third and Fourth Tenths. St. Pinck was Assapink Creek, the present name. His fees were fixed at ten shillings for the first one hundred acres, five shillings for the next hundred and two shillings six pence for additional hundreds. He was allowed ten shillings a day for laying out land for the public. He was to be allowed a reasonable extra compensation "above ye square of 12 miles from his place of aboad."

May 3, 1681 land owners were ordered to present their deeds at the next term of court to be held June 7, 1681.

English Money Values Inflated

English money values were set as follows: Silver shilling, one shilling six pence, King's copper farthings, one-half penny, King's half pence, one penny each. No person was required to accept more than six pence in copper.

All freeholders and inhabitants within the jurisdiction of the court were ordered to appear at the next term to "signe ye concessions or show their reasons for their refusal." It was many years before they all complied. William Cooper and John Cripps were summoned to appear to answer at the next court for illegal taking up of land.

August 17, 1681 the first jury trial took place. It was about the unlawful killing of a hog. Three shillings damages were awarded to Samuel Cole the plaintiff. A ham thief was ordered to be publicly whipped, 20 lashes. Inn or ordinary keepers after August 9, 1682 could not charge more than two pence a quart for ale (Westminster measure) or strong beers. Two ale tasters were appointed.

Daniel Leeds, August 9, 1682 was ordered to lay forth the several tenths before 10th da 7 mo. next. The river front between St. Pinck and Cape May was to be measured and the same to be divided into ten equal parts or shares. He failed to perform the impossible task. A convenient logg house for a prison was ordered to be built in Burlington for the use of the province.

Francis Collins was one of the justices present at the court held 20th 12 mo. 1683.

Samuel Cole 3rd 3 mo. 1684 took a court appeal to England.

Land Owners

3rd, 4 mo. 1684. "The persons summoned to appear at this court by virtue of a warrant to Hance Hopman, constable, being inhabitants or occupiers of land within ye Tenths from ye Third Tenth as low as Oldman's Creeke to make appeare at ye same Court what quantities of land they hold and by what right or title they hold ye same."

"Mons Jonson
Hance Hopman
Peter Jonson

hold a parcel of land a mile in breadth or front being between or extending from Oldman's Creek and a small run upward, which they hold by a permit from Governor Carterett dated 25th June, 1668, but did not produce ye permit, nor know they how much it contains, not having surveyed it." See "Indians of Southern New Jersey."

"Charles Johnson

Hance Woolston
Daniel Livezey

guessed to be about 450 acres. Daniel Livezey purchased James Saunderland's interest thereof who had it by virtue of ye same permit above written. And the said Daniel sold part of the same to ye other two partners. But no survey thereof."

"James Ostason als Hance Lassey Coleman and Neales Matson als Lawson by John Anderson in possession. Guessed to be about 300 acres. Ye said Neales had ye same by virtue of ye permit above and sold to ye other two partners, but no survey thereof."

3-4 mo. 1684

It was

"Ordered yt ye Third tenth appoint their overseers for ye highways and with as much speed as may be, shall begin to repayre their highways and such refusing or neglecting to perform their said worke according to appointment of ye overseers shall pay, every person keeping a teame, ten shillings for every day soe neglecting and every other person neglecting ye same three shillings a day."

17th 4 mo. 1684

"The names of ye persons who appeared at this court by virtue of a warrant, from ye (Fourth) Tenth as low as Oldmans Creek with a particular acct of what quantity of land they hold and by what right or title they hold ye same is given in at ye same Court."

Peter Erickson
Wolly Derrickson

One hundred acres certain from Thomas Budd on ye public acct but yet have no deed.

Andreas Hoeman 150 acres, bought of Thomas Budd on ye public acct.

Hance Peterson 50 acres, do.

Benjamin Bramma 100 acres, in ye 4th Tenth from Thomas Matthews.

Neales Matson appears not.

John Wood 100 acres, from Edw. Billing.

Henry Treadway 200 acres, by deed on public acct.

William Warner 100 acres, do.

Richard Lawrence 600 acres, by deed from Edward Billing.

Neales Lawson, Land given in before.

Second Tenth

Capt. Hance
 Jonas Keene and
 Frederick son 500 acres, purchased
 on public account.
 Jonas Keene 100 acres, from Samuel
 Jennings.
 John Hance and
 Fredrick 400 acres, from Anna Salter.

Third Tenth

The names of ye persons within ye
 Third Tenth summoned to appeare
 with an account of their lands in pos-
 session.

Thos. Thackeray, 250 acres, by deed.
 Thos. Sharpe, 250 acres, by deed and
 400 acres, reserved for ye towne
 bounds for ye purchasers these.

Robert Zane, 500 acres, by deed.
 John Hogge, 500 acres, by deed from
 Robert Zane.

Richard Arnold, 200 acres, purchas-
 ed on public account.

Henry Stacy and more 500 acres, by
 deed; 500 acres, by deed in tenure of
 R. Matthews.

Daniel Walton 500 acres, by war-
 rant on William Hunt account but ye
 said Daniel appeared not.

Hannah Newbie, 250 acres, of an un-
 divided part and 300 acres, certain
 from ye publick.

Robert Turner, 2150 acres, an undi-
 vided part.

Samuel Carpenter, 650 acres, certain
 William Bate, 260 acres, an undivid-
 ed part and hath no part of town
 bounds (Gloucester).

William Albertson, 250 acres, undi-
 vided part.

Thos. Carolton, 250 acres, undivided
 part.

Jeremiah Richards, 500 acres, cer-
 tain.

Samuel Cole, 500 acres, undivided
 part.

Thomas Howell, 650 acres, an undi-
 vided part in two settlements.

Henry Wood, 250 acres, an undivid-
 ed part and 100 acres, certain. He
 was not the one of Woodbury Creek.

John Ithell, 500 acres, an undivided
 part.

Marcus Lawrence, 200 acres, cer-
 tain.

Caspar Fish, 120 acres, certain.

Richard Russel, 300 acres, certain.

Frances Collins, 1400 acres, undivid-
 ed share.

John Kea, 100 acres, certain of Fran-
 cis Collins.

William Frampton, 550 acres in un-
 divided part.

Edward Everett for himself 50
 acres, certain and on William Row-
 dens acct 400 acres, certain.

William Cooper and Thos. Howell
 were overseers for the highways in
 the Third Tenth.

The list for the First and Second
 tenths contains 90 names, including
 Samuel Wright, with 285 acres undi-
 vided. He was an ancestor of the
 compiler.

Irish Tokens of Mark Newbie

At the term of court held 16th 7 mo.
 1684 Hannah Newbie requested dis-
 tribution of the estate of her deceased
 husband. She submitted an inventory
 and gave the required bond and was
 granted letters of administration. Her
 husband Mark brought the Irish pence
 to New Jersey.

The settlement of his estate was de-
 layed until the tokens the Legislature
 had permitted him to distribute at fix-
 ed coin values could be redeemed.
 They are of considerable value today
 and a specimen may be seen in the
 coin collection in Independence Hall,
 donated by the compiler.

**Complete List of Third and Fourth
Tenth Land Owners 1684****FOURTH TENTH**

Mons Jonson, Hance Hopman, Peter
 Jonson:—The three of them held an
 unknown quantity, about a mile front-
 age, between Oldmans Creek and a
 small creek upward, under a permit
 of Governor Carteret, dated June 25,
 1668. No survey.

Charles Jonson, Hance Woolston,
 Daniel Linsey:—The three guessed
 they had about 450 acres purchased by
 Linsey of James Sanderland. Same
 permit. No survey.

James Justason Alias Hance, Lassey
 Coleman, Neales Matson Alias Law-
 son, By John Anderson, in possession:
 —Guessed to be about 300 acres. Same
 permit. No survey.

Peter Erickson, Wally Erickson:—
 The two owned 100 acres, bought of
 Thomas Budd. No deed. No survey.

James Sanderland:—He owned 200
 acres purchased of Samuel Jennings
 and Thomas Budd. Deed recorded.

Hance Hopman:—Owned 200 acres purchased of Richard Basnett.

Paul Curvon: — Guessed to be 100 acres in two settlements, now one. No title. Taken up of his own accord.

Pter Rambo, Sr.:—650 acres of an undivided share.

Peter Dalbo and Wolley Dalbo:—200 acres.

Anthony Nealson:—100 acres.

Israel Helme:—About 600 acres by permit from Governor Carteret. No survey.

Peter Ponyon Alias Erickson:—100 acres from Thomas Budd. No survey.

Wolly Derrickson:—150 acres, ditto.

Mattis Hooman, Sr., and Andreas Hooman:—150 acres, ditto.

Hance Peterson:—50 acres, ditto.

John Broome:—Benjamin, his son-in-law.

John Wood:—100 acres from Edward Byllinge.

Henry Treadway:—200 acres. Deed.

William Warner:—100 acres. Deed.

Richard Lawrence:—650 acres. Deed from Byllinge.

Samuel Carpenter, Thomas Winn, Wm. Frampton, John Songhurst, Benj. Braman:—100 acres from Thomas Matthews.

THIRD TENTH

Four Hundred acres for town bounds were reserved in the Third Tenth for first settlers 17-4 mo. 1684

Thomas Thackera:—250 Acres. Deed.

Thomas Sharp:—250 Acres. Deed.

Robert Zane:—500 Acres. Deed.

John Hugg:—500 Acres. Deed from Robert Zane.

Richard Arnold:—200 Acres. Deed.

Henry Stacy:—500 Acres. Deed. 500 Acres, tenure of R. Matthews.

Daniel Walton:—500 Acres, by warrant of Wm. Hunt.

Hannah Newbie:—250 Acres of Meadow and 300 Acres of High Land.

Robert Turner:—2150 Acres. Undivided.

Sam'l Carpenter:—650 Acres. Undivided.

Wm. Bates:—260 Acres. Undivided.

Wm. Alberson:—250 Acres. Undivided.

Tho. Carolton:—250 Acres. Undivided.

Jeremiah Richards:—500 Acres. Certain.

Sam'l Cole:—500 Acres. Undivided.

Thos. Howell:—650 Acres. Undivided in two settlements.

Henry Wood:—250 Acres. Undivided, and 150 Acres. Certain.

John Ithell:—500 Acres. Undivided.

Marcus Lawrence:—200 Acres. Certain.

Caspar Fish:—120 Acres. Certain.

Rochard Russel:—300 Acres. Certain.

Francis Collins:—1400 Acres. In an undivided share.

John Kea:—100 Acres. Certain, of Francis Collins.

Wm. Frampton:—550 Acres. Undivided.

Wm. Cooper, John Ashton, Timothy Hancock, John Roberts, Wm. Matlack, Thomas Wallis:—The last six did not report their acreages to the Burlington County Court.

MULTIPLE NAMES OF STREAMS

Woodbury Creek: — Anokaning Creek, Peskozack Sings, Red Bank Creek, Long Harry's Creek.

Big Timber Creek: — Gloucester River.

Clonmell Creek: — Kaphockosey Creek.

Albertson Creek:—Kings Run, South Branch of Newton Creek.

Repaupa Creek: -- Memirako, Hoemans Creek, Trumpeters Creek, Thief Creek, Newport Creek, Still Run.

Oldmans Creek:—Alderman's Creek, Berkley River, Masaeksey's Creek.

Almonesson Creek:—Steel's Branch.

Rancocus Creek:—Ancokus Creek, Northampton River.

Newton Creek: — Arwamos Creek, Count Ernest's Creek.

Pensaukin Creek: — Cropwell River.

Mantua Creek:—Mantes.

There was also a stream called Whitacre river the present name of which is mislaid.

For Indian Names consult "Lindstroms Geographia Americae" by Dr. Amandus Johnson.

The First Town Incorporated in Old Gloucester County

On the Fourth of the Seventh month (September), 1685, it was ordered by the Burlington County Court "that ye freeholders within ye Third Tenth, in ye province aforesaid, shall or may take up and lay forth 2000 acres of land for their town bounds and 400

acres for their town and that each person and persons who are already in ye said Tenth shall or may take up their respective proportions thereof, according to their purchase and that every purchaser shall take forth a warrant for taking up of his particular proportion thereof which is to be returnable, at ye next court following ye survey thereof, and is to be accounted as part of their share or quantity of land to them appertaining within ye sd Tenth: of which all p'sons concerned in ye said Tenth are required to take notice and to forebeare to offer or make any obstruction or disturbance in ye sd. premises."

What is now Gloucester City, Camden County, has the distinction of being the first incorporated town in the Third and Fourth Tenths. It was within a year chosen as the place for the holding of courts and was the county seat of Gloucester County until the County buildings were built in Woodbury a century later.

Extracts from Proceedings of the Legislature of the Province of West New Jersey, Approved May 15th, 1686 Old Style

The members of ye assembly for ye third and fourth tenths, on ye behalf of their tenths, request they may have power to keep Courts for ye third and fourth Tenths.

Whereupon ye query being put to ye house whether they judge it convenient or not, the vote carries it in the affirmative that they may keep courts.

Resolved that there be a Court kept for ye third and fourth Tenths. One time ye same to be held at Newton and ye other time at Red Bank.

And William Warner is chosen Sheriff of that jurisdiction and John Reading clerk thereof.

Resolved that ye highways from Salem to Burlington shall be proceeded in and affected. The surveyors whereof for ye fourth Tenth are Andrew Robeson, Jr., and Walla Dalboe.

For ye third Tenth Francis Collins and Thomas Sharp.

John Key, Thomas Gardiner, Jr., and Andrew Robeson, Jr., were chosen rangers for the third and fourth Tenths.

Henry Treadway was appointed tax collector for the fourth Tenth.

The Organization and Minutes of the Gloucester County, New Jersey, Court,

"Gloucester ye 28 May 1686

"By the Proprietors Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Third and fourth Tenths (alias County of Gloucester) then agreed as followeth

"Inprims That a Court be held for the Jurisdiction and Limmits of the aforesaid Tenths or County, one Tyme at Arwamus alias Gloucester and another tyme at Red Bank

"Item That there be fouer Courtes for the Jurisdiction aforesaid held in one year at ye dayes and tymes hereafter mentioned viz

"Upon the first day of the first Month, upon the first day of ye fourth-month, on the first day of the Seaventh month and upon ye first day of the Tenth month.

"Item That the Court shall be held at Gloucester aforesaid upon the first day of September next

"Item That all warrants and summons shall be drawne by the Clarke of the Courte: and signed by a Justice and soe delivered to the Sheriff or his Deputy to Execute

"Item That the bodye of each warrant &c shall contayne or intimate the nature of action

"Item That a Coppy of the Declaration be given along with ye warrant by the Clerke of the Court, that soe the Defendant may have the longer tyme to consider the same and prepare his answer

"Item That all summons, warrants &c shall be served, Declarelations given, at least ten days before the Court

Item That the Sheriffe shall give the Jurors summons six dayes before the Courte be held before at which they are to appear

"Item That all persons within ye Jurisdiction aforesaid bring into the next Courte ye markes of their Hogs and other Cattell in order to be Approved and Recorded"

Calendar Changes

Pope Gregory XIII decreed that in October 1582 Catholic Countries should correct the Julian Calendar by dropping ten days between October 5th and October 15th which made the first become the last date. England did not adopt the Gregorian Calendar until

1752 when the error of the Julian Calendar had increased from ten to eleven days. Washington was born February 11, 1732, old style, or February 22, new style.

In reading ancient records of numbered months in New Jersey prior to September 3, 1752, which became September 14, it should be borne in mind that March 25th was the beginning of the year or New Year's day. March was numbered the first month. February was numbered the Twelfth month; June was the Fourth month. September the Seventh month.

In England there were two calendars, the Historic Calendar with the year beginning January First and the Legal calendar beginning March 25th. In order to prevent misunderstandings it was necessary to use double datings of the Legal calendar year for January, February and March prior to the 25th. Thus 1 mo. 24th 1694-5 meant March 24th 1694-5 and 1 mo. 26th 1695, two days later, meant March 26, 1695.

March 25th or New Year's day was the usual date for the beginning and termination of yearly farm leases. In the agricultural regions of Southern New Jersey the day is known as "moving day" at the present time. Previous to September 1752 when England and its colonies adopted the Gregorian Calendar, and dropped eleven days, September third to the thirteenth inclusive, the numbered months were used by Quakers and the named months in the Legal calendar by other sects, generally speaking. After 1752 the calendar year universally began January first and double dating was dropped by all in New Jersey. Many mistakes have been made by transcribers not acquainted with the above facts.

Deputy Governor John Skene

John Skene produced, 3-9 mo., 1685, his commission as deputy governor of the Province of West Jersey from Edward Byllinge. He immediately adjourned the Burlington Court which at that time exercised jurisdiction over the Third and Fourth Tenth.

John Skene, deputy governor was present at the 15th 10 mo 1685 court when Thomas Matthews was appointed Ranger overseer for preserving timber from upper end of Third Tenth to Cape May, Salem excepted.

One County Court Usurped Another

23-6 mo. 1687 a Gloucester County case was tried at Burlington. One of the principals was fined 50£ and court charges and was ordered to be kept in the Burlington jail, which was then used for Gloucester County prisoners, until the fine was paid. The other party was "ordered to be severely whipped, on the 26th instant, between the hours of eleven and twelve in the forenoon, on thy naked back at the cart's taylor, from the house of John Cripps, (a licensed place) in this towne, to the river side and that thou shalt have thirty nyne stripes well laid on." The people of Old Gloucester County were highly indignant and its sheriff was severely criticized as will be seen in the minutes of the Gloucester County court. He had taken the couple to Burlington because there was no jail at Gloucester. They were indicted in both counties.

Early Law Suits

At the first term of Court, 1st 7 mo., 1686, Rebecca Hammon, an indentured servant of Robert Zane was given a verdict against him, to wit:

One suit of Woolen apparel valued at 1£ 10s 0d.

Two suits of head attire valued at 4 shillings.

Two shifts valued at 12 shillings.

Two pair of stockings and one pair of shoes valued at 9 shillings.

Two aprons valued at 2 shillings, six pence.

Two neck clothes and one pair of bodies.

Fifty acres of land.

In case Zane refused to abide by the indenture papers he was to comply with the Act of Assembly governing such cases. This order was signed by Francis Collins, Thos. Thackara and John Wood, Justices.

The above was the first lawsuit of record in Old Gloucester County.

John Test, of Anokaing, an Indian name for his plantation on the north side of Woodbury Creek, who had bought a bull of Peter Dalbo alias Matson, of Little Mantua Creek, complained that Henry Treadway the defendant, had taken away the bull on or about the 16th of the 4th mo. 1686 and refused to return it to the plaintiff. This case was also listed on the

first docket of the first term of court held at Gloucester 1st, 7 mo., 1686.

Richard Lawrence of Upper Red Bank sued William Warner, of Lower Red Bank, for a debt of seven pounds six shillings Pennsylvania currency.

The compiler thinks Woodbury Creek, formerly called Red Bank Creek, was the southerly side of Lower Red Bank.

Court Order to Record Ear Marks of Swine and Cattle

"To as many of the Planters, Settlers & Inhabitants within the County of Gloucester as this may concerne,

"Whereas all persons keeping hogges, within this County of Gloucester, were required and summoned to appear at ye Court, held at Gloucester, for the Jurisdiction thereof, upon the 1st of the 7th mo. (Sept.) 1686, then and there to declare and deliver in the markes of their hoggs and other Cattell in order to be approved by the magistrates, of ye sd. Court, and recorded by the Clerk thereof, yet notwithstanding the aforesaid notice of summons given there to many persons, within the county aforesaid, that have refused to obey the same, by their failure and neglect of making any appearance or return of their marks at the place and time aforesaid."

"This is therefor to request by ye authority of Court aforesaid strictly to charge and command all and every person, within ye precinct aforesaid, which have hitherto made default in their not giving in their hogg marks, to repaire to John Reading upon Gloucester River, (Big Timber Creek) by or before the last day of the 8 mo. next following at the furtherest and to him make known and bring and give in the true and exact marks of their hoggs, &c., which are by him to be recorded and a public registry to be kept thereof and herein you are not to fail as you will answer the contrary at your peril.

"Given under my hand this 7 day of the 7 month (September) Ano. Dom. 1686.

JOHN READING, Clerk,
by order of ye Court"

On the back of this loose paper are the ear marks of Francis Collins and Thomas Thackera, two of the Justices of the County of Gloucester.

Gloucester County Ear Marks of Swine and Cattle

Francis Collins
Joseph Collins
Thomas Thackera
John Wood
Henry Wood
Samuel Soles
Samuel Spicer
John Taylor
John Cooper
Thomas Howell
Daniel Howell
Jonathan Boltons
Thomas Chaunders
Henry Sise
John Ashton
John Smallwoods
Jonathan Wood
Robart Turner
George Goldsmith
Isaac Jennings
James Atkinson
Jonathan Sell's
Robert Zane
John Hill's
William Alberman
Thomas Sharpe
Richard Arnold
Isaac Hollingam's
John Hugge
Sam'l Harrison
John Reading
John Gill
William Warner
John Browne
Levi Peirce
William Salsbury
Andrew Robeson
Anthony Neilson
Woolley Dalbo
Peter Dalbo
Benja Braman
Israell Helme
Lacye Coleman
James Justeson
John Henderick
William Cobb
Mathew Medcalfe
Jacob Medcalfe
Jno. Test
John Ladd Jr.
Hannah Ladd
Wm. Hunt
Richard Laurence
John Anderson
Richard Russell
William Cooper
Robert Tate
John Thorn

Martin Holt
 William Sharman
 Hance Peterson
 Wooley Derickson
 Hance Hopman
 John Matson
 John Orrion
 Juste Justeson
 John Hopman
 Freddrick Hopman
 Thomas Mathews
 Thomas Gardner
 John Derickson
 Charles Springer
 John Anderson
 Lacye Holton
 Mons Janson
 Thomas Denny
 John Ithell
 Phillip Paule
 John Hugge Ju
 Samuel Taylor
 John Ashbrook
 John Burroughs
 William Bates
 Marcus Laurence
 Daniel Reading
 Thomas Gibson
 Joseph Gibson
 Andreas Anderson
 Isaack Pearson
 Elthen Cornock
 James Thomas
 John Tatum
 John Willis
 Thomas Buckman
 James Whitehall
 Moses Lakin
 John Parker
 Robert Parker
 James Parker
 Josuah Lord
 John Parker Jur
 Edward Burroughs
 John Rambo
 John Siddon
 Isaac Wood
 Kathrine Howell
 Jonathan Bell
 Andrew Hopman
 Lawrence Hopman
 Woolley Peterson
 Paule Paulson
 Phillip Paul
 George Webb
 Henry Treadway
 Robert Zane
 Samuel Tomes
 Archibald Mickell
 Henry Wood

Jacob Cozens
 Charles Crosthwait
 Thomas Nixon
 Henry Johnson
 Joseph Tomlinson
 Richard Heritage
 William Chester
 Thomas Nixon
 Israel Ward
 John Ireson
 John Willis
 Robert Zane
 Thomas Bull
 Elias Hugg
 George Ward
 Garratt Van Ima
 John Worthington
 Charles Crosthwait
 Andrew Hopman
 William Ward
 John Hdger
 Joseph Tyndal
 Richard Bromley
 Phillip Paul
 Robert Lord
 Elthen Cornock
 Edward Williams
 Robert Parker
 William Sharp
 James Ward
 Moses Ward
 John Richards, Jr.
 John Hutchinson
 Peter Long
 Richard Bull
 Michael Laycon
 John Gibson
 George Webb
 Peter Cock
 George Green
 John Roe
 John Hinchman
 John Hinchman, Jr.
 Joseph Nicholson
 John Haddon
 Thomas Sharp
 John Gray
 John Willis
 Edward Clements
 William Laton
 Henry Wood
 John Dole
 Joseph Dole
 Ephraim Bee
 Isaac Sharp
 William Bryan
 William Smith
 Thomas Stevens
 Samuel Driver
 John Hillman

John Rakestraw
 John Reading
 Thomas Ashbrook
 John Richards
 William Tatum
 Constantine Wood
 John Hopper
 Charles Smith
 Jonathan Ladd
 Richard Arnold
 John Cock
 Jacob Focerman
 Nicholas Laycon
 John Spey
 Jacob Clement
 Jacob Rylands
 John Eastlack
 Martin Holt
 Edw. Eglington
 Joseph Estlacke
 Amos Ashead
 John Ashton
 David Brin
 Wm. Hampton
 John Burroughs
 Thomas Bee
 John Hendricks
 Joseph Hinchman
 Erick Cox
 Ralph Sutton
 Joseph Liddon
 John Atkins
 James Lord
 James Dilks
 Lawrence Cocks
 Benjamin Richards
 Luke Gibson
 Joseph Gibson
 Michael Lycon
 Joseph Heritage
 David Wenwright
 John Lord
 John Ladd, Jr.
 Sam'l Toms
 Robert Bryan
 Patrick Flaningham
 Philip White
 Valinteen Rowell
 John Van Ima
 Nathaniel Chew
 Joseph Langley
 Joseph Perce
 John Brown
 Robert Zane
 Sam'l Harrison
 Moses Ward
 Jonathaon Belton
 Catherine Howell
 Daniel Howell
 John Kay

Isaac Hollingham
 Richard Arnold
 Jos. Loe
 John Thorn
 Robert Teatt
 John Inskeep
 Wm. Harrison
 Wm. Thorn
 John Smallwood
 Richard Gray
 John Gibson
 Tho: Holden
 Timothy Eglington
 Joseph Yong
 Will Hewitt
 Isaac Jennings
 Jonathon Bolton
 John Gill
 John Reading
 Robert Minor
 Tobias Bright
 Dan. Cooper
 Arthur Powell
 Joseph Collins
 Jacob Rylands
 John Richards
 Tho: Dennis
 Thos. Kimsey, Jr.
 William Alberson
 William Hunt
 Jonathan Sell
 Lawrence Hopman
 John Hill
 Robert Champion
 Jno Dukemineer
 Thomas Atmore
 Joseph Cooper
 George Birch
 Ed. Richardson
 Daniel Cooper
 William Dickinson
 Wm. Cooper
 Alexander Randall
 Simeon Ellis
 Simon Breach
 Joseph Loe
 Isaac Hollingham
 Wm. Vaughan
 Peter Long
 Gervas
 Nathaniel Tylee
 Thomas Holden
 Abraham Chatwin
 John Matson
 Benj. Ward
 William Chester, Jr.
 James Hennesey
 William Arell
 Wm. Thorn
 George Whitbrook

Wm. Ward
 George Howill
 William Van Culling
 John Down
 Christopher Taylor
 Wm. White
 Edward Richardson
 George Bird

This is the last entry in the book and evidently the subsequent ear marks were recorded in another book now missing or it may be the townships rather than the county recorded the ear marks.

On the blank page at the beginning of the book are the ear marks of John, Levy and George Peirce 1775-6.

Another mark is that of Obadiah Gibson 10th 11 mo 1732 which was later taken by Hab. Ward.

A Curious Indictment of Judges

One of the most curious incidents that ever happened in a Gloucester County Court was the indictment of the Judges for not being present on the date set for the meeting of the second term of court, at Red Bank viz., December 1st, 1686. The bench consisted of four Justices of whom three were required, by law, to make a quorum. Only two were present and as a consequence a legal court could not be held and the jurors were greatly inconvenienced.

The priceless Old Gloucester County court record book beginning May 28, 1686 does not contain any reference to the Minutes of the session called on December 1st following. Fortunately the record of it was found among the unbound papers and is herewith copied verbatim.

Not In the Court Minutes

"At the Court held at Red banke for the Jurisdiction of ye County of Gloucester, on the 1st day of ye 10th month 1686, these being present upon the bench as Justices
 Thomas Thackery,
 John Wood.

"Returned by the sheriffe on ye Grand Inquest.

Thomas Matthews
 Daniel Reading
 William Bate
 Benjamin Bramon
 John Bethell
 Christ. Watkins
 Will. Cobb
 Hance Hopman

Fredrick Hopman
 Mons Janson
 Juste Justeson
 John Watkins
 John Ladde
 Phill. Paule
 Math. Medcalfe
 Peter Matson

These all appeared except Mons. Janson and Will. Cobb

The Grand Jury finds nothing presentable

"Returned by ye sherriff upon ye Travers Jury.

Will. Cooper

Jno. Ashton

Jonath. Wood

John Orion

John Hopman

by talis

Morton Holt

Benja. Holt

John Test

crossed off

Tho. Bowman

John Woolston

Tho. Gardiner

Jno. Brown

Hance Peterson

John Stonbank

crossed off

Tho. Green

Edw. Eglinton

Thos. Matthews

Jno. Bethell

Will. Bates

crossed off

Benja. Bramon

"William Dalboe plant. against Peter Matson defend. in an action of the Case.

"These following were attested upon ye Travers Jury and soe the Court adjourned till the 9 hou. the next morning being the 2d of 10 month.

Dec. 2d

"The Court called and the Jury appeared all but Morton Hold and Edw. Eglinton.

The Court adjourned till the 10th day of this Instant December, till ye 9 hour in ye morning.

"Will. Cobb, Jno. Browne, Hance Peterson. These three persons are fined by the Court 10s a man for their default in not appearing according to summons.

"Will. Bate fined for non-appearance ye last Court.

"Will. Cooper fined for ye same default 2s 6d"

Verbatim Copy of The Grand Jury Indictment of the Judges

"10th of 10th mo 1686

"The Grand Jury present &c that whereas there is a law in this Province provides that there shall not be less than three Justices to hold a court did find to their prejudice and ye breach of ye said law that upon ye first instant a Court was to have been held in this place and for want of ye foresaid number of Justices ye County rec'd very considerable damages"

Ended "ye Grand Jury finds this Bill"

The above is a loose paper and bears date of, the second term of Court, the first one held at Red Bank which was an adjourned Court due to a lack of quorum of Justices Dec. 1, 1686.

A full account of the Court held 10th mo. (December) 10th 1686 was published in the pamphlet "The Organization and Minutes of the Gloucester County Court 1686-7" which met according to adjournment. At this term a full bench, composed of Andrew Robeson, Francis Collins, Thomas Thackera, and John Wood, was present. The grand jury not forgetting that jurors were fined for absence brought in the following indictment. "The Grand Jury present the neglect of magistrates for their not making a full bench on ye first day of this instant for which cause ye Court was adjourned till this present 10 day." The judges paid no attention to the incident.

Ear Mark Descriptions

The above mentioned pamphlet also contained the descriptive ear mark registrations, of about two hundred and seventy of the pioneer settlers of Old Gloucester County. In the preceding list the descriptions have been omitted.

The first lawsuit about land was the case of William Dalbo versus Peter Matson December 10, 1686.

Servitude for Theft

The first conviction for theft happened at the same term. Andrew Wilke the culprit was sentenced to pay sixteen pounds by servitude for a period of four years to a master who would furnish meat, drink, clothes, washing and lodging, fit for a servant, according to the custom of the country.

The Court expenses were paid by jurors fines and fines assessed against William Cooper, John Hugg and William Warner who had killed ear marked hogs, the owners being unknown. The Court appointed Thos. Gardiner, John Bethell, William Alberson and George Goldsmith public appraisers for distrained goods and trespasses.

The above are extracts from the Minutes of the Court of December 10, 1686.

The First Tax Levy in Old Gloucester County

"We ye Grand Jury doth order and agree that fifty pounds be levied upon the County of Glossester for the defraying of public charges of the said County to say upon all lands in possession and all handicraft men that hath noe land and all laboring men by their powles that hath noe land.

P. HENRY WOOD,
Foreman."

Gloucester

ye 1 d: 2 mo 1687

This tax was payable in cereals. See Notes on Old Gloucester County, Vol. I; also Minutes and Organization of the Gloucester County Court 1686-7.

The Proprietary Road — Burlington- Salem

At the third and fourth terms of Court i.e. April 1, 1687 and June 1, 1687 the latter being the last one held at Red Bank the early settlers were ordered to build and repair bridges and highways of the Burlington-Salem road which crossed the headwaters of the various creeks. This ancient road is almost entirely unknown to the historians of today who practically without exception confuse it with the well known King's Highway. The Burlington-Salem Road was of the Proprietary period.

Note: The W. P. A. project has for several years tried to map the King's Highway through present Gloucester County.

Resentment of the Grand Jury

"County Gloucester ye first of ye 7 mo 87.

The Grand Jury presents, &c.

That whereas ye Govr and General Assembly hath given their assent for ye holding of several Courts in this Province in particular yt of ye County affoursaid haveing there by Jurydic-

tion for ye tryall of all mallifacters therein & that a heanious and notorious act having of late been committed by ———, of ye said County, who was apprehended and was to have received his tryall on ye ffoursaid County according to ye English laws and those of this x x x x (one whole line missing) and William Warner bin conveyed to Burlington and hath received his said tryall contrary to rights and priviledges belonging to this County, we can doe no less but signifye our resentment of so grate and unsufferable (word gone) abuses and breach of priviledges.

THO. MATTHEWS"

This Grand Jury presentment shows that the West Jersey Assembly in a regular manner, authorized the establishment of the Gloucester County Court as has been discovered by Dr. C. E. Godfrey in the omissions of Leaming and Spicer.

At the sixth term of Court held at Gloucester, December 1, 1687 Francis Collins agreed to build a bridge over the upper branch of Gloucester River and mark the way to and from the bridge through the Indian field on the upper side of the bridge. This was to be done at the expense of the County.

Five more bridges under the jurisdiction of Andrew Robeson and Woolley Dalboe, overseers, were ordered repaired within four months or they should be severely fined.

John Wood and William Warner were indicted for taking two prisoners to Burlington for trial, probably because there was no jail in Gloucester County. John Wood apologized at the Seventh term March 1 1687-8.

This item refers to the conviction of Gloucester County offenders by the Burlington County court.

A bond of Gasperon Fish dated 1687 and a few other documents written by John Reading show that the latter had a full knowledge of Latin.

John Ashbrook petitioned the court for redress from James Atkinson for fifty acres of land and two suits of apparel for four years of service. The court ordered Atkinson to deliver an order for fifty acres of land in Pennsylvania, one good new "waste coate" with two hats.

Magna Charta of the Baptists of New Jersey

On the fourth and twentieth day of the second year of the reign of James II Thomas John Hooten, yeoman of Barnstable Devon and David Coles Shepherd, sidesman, County Tipperary, received an unusual document from Sir Knight Edmond Andross then Governor of the Dominion of New England.

The original document now before the writer is what may be termed the Magna Charta of the Baptists of New Jersey. It states "To their comfort forever to enjoy Free the right to Worship and Especially ye Baptist Dissenting Folks and Further they the Baptists may have and hold the said Lands free of all ye tything of ye Ecclesiastical Commissioners save ye Barley corn tythes of ye Lord Bishop of London and his Majesties Pleasure."

The unique sheepskin bears the hand-drawn seal of Andross and recites the land titles of New Jersey. The writer's guess is that the two Baptists obtained the document to protect their faith from being tythed by the Puritans of Massachusetts. See Dr. Godfrey's "When Boston Was New Jersey's Capital." The document bears no evidence of having been recorded and where it has been for two hundred and fifty-four years together with the Jamestown Colony Indian document of May, 1607 is a deep mystery

Bounty for Wolves—Slow Tax Payments

"1st day 4th mo 1688"

"Divers complaints being made, to ye grand jury, of ye great loss and damage the County suffers by reason of wolves, they with the concurrence of ye Court for ye destroying of them order the several treasurers within the County to pay 10s for every wolves head to them brought forth, of ye effects of the County tax and ye Clerke ordered to write papers to publish ye same.

Complaint being made of ye inequality of ye persons who have served in Assembly to be excused from paying their part of the County tax. the Grand Jury with ye concurrence of ye Courte order the Constables to take accompt from ye Treasurers whoe hath not paid their share and are to

give notice for them to pay, in ye same within 14 dayes next following, which in case they faile to doe then to distrain for double ye value upon all that shall soe refuse, without any regard or excuse of those that have formerly served in ye assembly, and ye Clarke was ordered to give out warrants to ye several constables for to take distress in manner aforesaid."

"Francis Collins doth he engage to ye Grand jury to furnish ye bridge and way to it at ye head of Gloucester River (Big Timber Creek) within the space of three weeks next ensuing."

Damaged Court Record

The court minutes for 1st mo 1st, 1688-9 are so eaten away in places by the aciduous ink of the time it is impossible to get the exact wording of the tax ordered. However, from several other sources it has been determined that land was taxed twelve pence or one shilling for each hundred acres. Cattle were taxed at two pence per head; horses and mares at one pence each. There seems to have been some allowance for horses less than two years old and also for yearling cattle.

The Court 1st 1 mo 1688-9

"The Grand Jury find a necessity of ye immediate raising by tax ye sum of 50£ for ye defraying of ye public charge, for ye remaining Tax. Francis Collins and Matthew Medcalfe for ye paying for wolves and panther heads and for a stock to be in (destroyed) same; they do agree and order these be raised upon land and cattle in manner following viz: that every hundred acres shall pay ye sum of 12d and the sum of 2d per head on cows to go to one head and — — — old shall be accounted for one head. That likewise every — horses 1d per head and mares above two years. Ye sum sd. sums tax and rates shall be paid in silver money or in ye County produce at ye price current.

All which ye Bench approve of and assents to.

Line Between Gloucester and Burlington Counties

"Gloucester the 1 of the 4th month 1689.

"We the Grand Jury do hereby order in pursuance to that agreement made by the Counsell of Proprietors for the

determination of the Division of the two Countyes: viz., Burlington and Gloucester and having intelligence by those whom the Councell chose in order to determine the said matter that they shall be the division. Wee I say in order thereunto have concluded that upon the 17th day of this instant 4th month Thomas Sharp, shall be ouer surveyor to run the lyne. According to the agreement and for his assistance shall have John Walker and John Heritage to mark the trees and to see the thing done, ffancis Collins, Richard Heritage, Jhn Kagn and John Willis are appointed.

We have alsoe aggreed and thought meet that the people of County of Burlington shall have notice of our proceedings in this matter and to appear when it is to be done if they please.

Signed by ouer foreman,

THOMAS THACKRA.

The Bench assents hereto and approves of the same.

Inhabitants Ordered to Repair a Bridge

At the court held at Gloucester, the 1st of 4 mo (June) 1689, the forman of the Grand Jury Thomas Thackara presented the deficient bridge over the southerly branch of Croppwell Creek. John Kay, Simeon Ellis, Samuel Cole, Thos. Shackle, John Willis, Daniel Howell, Moysses Leakin, Thos. Chaunders, Saml Spicer, Henry Wood, John Taylor, John Wright, Thos. Jones, Casper Fish, John Walker, Markus Lawrance and Thos. Loyde adjacent inhabitants to the bridge were ordered to appear at the bridge on the 10th inst to make it substantial. Richard Heritage was to be the overseer.

The Bench approved and ordered the men named to appear to make a good, safe and sufficient bridge fit for horse as well as foot.

Indians Killed the Hogs of a Settler and Made Restitution

Samuel Taylor of Gloucester River on 1st 4 mo (June) 1689 complained to the court about the killing of his hogs for some time past. He had already complained to the Grand Jury without redress. "Five great brooding sowes with several hoggs (and) more were wanting. "He believed the Indians had killed them because" they

have often come home bloody, being shot with arrows, and one was cut by an Indian Tammahauk." Taylor claimed he would be ruined if some relief were not granted to him. On the back of the almost destroyed document under date of 5th of 7th mo 1689 is written "The Bench awards that the goods formerly delivered by ye Indians for ye satisfaction of Hoggs, killed by them of Samuel Taylor's be brought to one place vis.—Readings and there appraised by impartial judgment of Thomas Thackara and William Alberston who should make report of their proceedings at the next term of Court. The division to be made in manner following, first thirty seaven shillings to be paid for ye Hoggs and the rest for fees etc. An Indian confessed he was one of the culprits.

James Thomas, Lacy Holton, Benjamin Bramon, Thos. Gardiner, Robert Parker, Edward Eglington, were all fined 5th 7 mo 1689 ten shillings at the Court held at Gloucester for refusing to serve on a coroner's inquest.

Glo 5-7 mo 1689 by adjournment from ye 1st of ye same month.

"The Grand Jury, with ye concurrence of ye Bench, agree and order that whosoever shall pay for any wolf's head to any Indian or other person shall be repaid by ye Treasurer of ye County, with interest for his money so dispersed."

"The Grand Jury, with ye concurrence and assent of ye Bench, confirme ye Tax made in ye year of 1688 and also order that there shall be one shilling p 100 acres of land for every hundred since that time taken up. And appoint Richard Heritage and John Kay Assessors for ye upper side of ye County and Andrew Robeson, Jr. and James Thomas ye same for ye lower side and Henry Wood and Thos. Sharp Treasurer for ye upper side and Andrew Robeson Sr ye same for ye lower side."

The tax ordered at Gloucester 5th day of 7 mo (Sept.) 1689 amounting to 50 lbs, on land and cattle was to pay money due to several inhabitants of the County and for the payment of bounties for wolves and panthers. This tax was twelve pence for each and every 100 acres of land possessed, taken up or surveyed and ye sum of 2 pence for every ox, bull or cow of which three yearlings or two-years old

shall go to make one head and likewise ye sum of 1 d for every horse or mare above two years old which sd. sums and rates shall be paid in silver money or country produce at prices current.

The Assessor for the upper side of the county (Pensauken to Big Timber, Third Tenth) was Richard Heritage. For the lower side James Thomas and Andrew Robeson. Henry Wood and Thomas Sharp were the respective Receivers of the taxes.

The tax as usual was not paid promptly and the court ordered advertisement to be made and the inhabitants to bring in "their particulars and respective parts and proportions within two months time.

Creek Named for an Ancient Soldier or Musician

The declaration of Mathias Hoeman plaintiff against Benjamin Braman dated November 1, 1689 discloses that one brass trumpet of three pounds value had been loaned by Hoeman, of Hoeman's alias Trumpeters Creek, to Braman who neglected and refused to return it, hence the suit.

This item shows how Homan's or Trumpeter's Creek got its name. It was also known as Newport Creek but so long ago no one of today would recognize any of them as the former name of upper Repaupa Creek. Thief Creek was also another ancient name.

The tavern of Steven Jones was located on the King's Highway near the creek just below present Mickleton where the skirmish of the Revolution occurred at Saunders branch, near the Bodo Otto house.

Salem-Burlington Road "2nd of December 1689"

"The grand jury at a Courte Houlden at Gloucester ye 2d day of December 1689 doe present as followeth

We present ye surveyors of ye high ways for not marking ye road between Salem and Burlington and from ye same road to ye ferry

We present ye County of Gloster for not erecting a common gole (jail) for ye securing of prisoners

**WILL ROYDON
fforeman"**

"The Bench orders that Salem Road be well and sufficiently marked and a new way or Road made and marked

from ye ferry up to ye said road and ye charge to be paid out of ye County tax. The performance of both which William Cooper undertakes.

Our First Jail

Daniel Reading undertakes to build a Gaol or Logg House of 15 or 18 foot square provided he have one lot of land conveyed to him and his heirs forever and ye said house to serve for a prison till ye County make a common gaole or until ye said logg house shall with age be destroyed or be made insufficient for ye purpose. Will Roydon undertakes to find ye lott he being paid 3 lb. for ye same on or before ye next Court."

A Request for Winter Courts at Red Bank

The West Jersey Assembly at its meeting May 12th to May 15th 1686 authorized the establishment of a Court to be held at Newton and Red Bank alternately. None was held at Newton and but two at Red Bank. It may be that Gloucester town was considered as being in the Newton district. For some reason the subsequent courts were held at Gloucester which was not convenient for all hence the following petition:

"We the Inhabitants of this County of Gloucester living in the lower part of this County do humbly supplicate this Court that the two winter Courts for the County may be kept at Henry Treadwaes at the Red Bank."

Tho: Gardiner
Joshua Lord
John Andrews
Als String
John Orien
John Hopman
Andrew Rowson Jr
Will: Dalbo
Tho: Green
Richard Moore
William Peter
Mounts Halton
Will. Coop
Andrew Hopman
Paul Paulson
Laressey Holton"

The last eight signed by marks.

The above petition was presented to the Court held at Gloucester December 2, 1689.

An Old Letter

Many years ago the following letter to Joshua Lord was in the possession of H. W. Moore, Parkville road, near Mantua. It is of considerable interest from a historical and genealogical viewpoint.

London, March 28, 1689

Loving Brother:

"I am heartily glad to hear from you and of your well doing. I heard by a letter from my mother that you are about to marry. I wish you well to do and happy in your your choice. That you may live contentedly and in the fear of God.

"I have inquired of all persons that I heard came from that island to hear of you since I have been at London, that is four years and never have been in the country to write of any affairs there. I am unacquainted being so long out of the country.

"We have had troublesome times here in London and great alterations. The Prince and Princess of Orange are proclaimed King and Queen and are to be crowned ye eleventh of next month. It is thought that Scotland will agree and come to England. The Convention is about to choose a King and it is thought they will choose King William. Ireland is in a sad and deplorable condition. The Papishes have disarmed as many Protestants as they can and taken all that they have. Many thousand families have been forced to fly—some to England and other parts. There is a number of Protestants in the North of Ireland. We hear that the Papists and they have had a great battle and six thousand Papists is slain and four thousand Protestants and the latter left masters of the field. There is a great army going from England to relieve them and some from Scotland.

"Dear Brother I do love to hear from you as often as you have opportunity. Pray let me know what manner of a country it is. How you are settled. My mother writes to my uncle James and me about by brother Lawrence transplanting himself to that country. He liveth ten miles from London and I can not see him before the ship goeth out. I had but the letter yesterday and the captain of the ship sayeth he goeth out within two or three days, so that I can not hear nothing in that

time from him. He will be glad to hear from you and your well doing. What my mother hath writ I can not tell. There is a parcel of letters sent to my uncle to be sent and in her letter she writes that you and John Wood desired to know whether she and your friends were content. She sayeth she is content and very well pleased and all your friends. She desires me to write to tell what my opinion was, and I am well satisfied and glad to hear from you once more.

"I desire that I might hear from you and what condition you are in and how you live and what manner of a country it is, and the fertility of the soil and what commodity is the best and what you have and how and what manner of building you have there and how it is inhabited and what places is next adjacent and what sort of cattle and corn the country does afford.

"My mother in her letter sayeth that you desired some things sent you over as clothes, bedding and nails and that you are about to set up your own land. She sayeth it being such troublesome times that she sayeth that she can see no possibility of sending anything at present so that it may come safe to your hand by reason of the troublesome times. If the ship had stayed two or three days longer my brother would have been with me in London and then he might have satisfied you about his coming over. ...

"Lo'ing Brother, I have sent a parcel of nails in a firkin directed for you as the letter is. I could not tell what sort to send for I did not see the letter you sent neither did I know whether you writ for any particular sorts or not. I have sent some of several sorts. If I had known what sort had been most useful I had sent them. So having no more, with my very dear love to you. Heartily remembered I at present rest your Ever loving Brother Whilst."

(The letter was unsigned and the spelling has been modernized.)

Two Months' More Leeway on Taxes— Dec. 2, 1689

"Where there was a tax laid at a former Court for ye raising of ye sum of 50 lbs. for ye defraying of public charge &c., and ye same being either to be hereby published or in any — ye Bench order ye Clerk to give public

intimation thereof that ye same may be paid within ye space of two months next following ye date hereof under penalty of being distrained on by all such that shall refuse or neglect to pay the same.

The above refers to the taxes levied 1st 1st mo (March) 1688/9 and 5-7 mo. 1689

A Passenger on William Penn's Ship

Glo. 2-10 mo. (December) 1689

John Songhurst Jr. produced the will of his father, proved in Philadelphia.

John Songhurst Sr. was a passenger on Penn's ship the Welcome and a Judge of Gloucester County. Thomas Wynne was also on the Welcome.

Distress Warrants Issued

1st day 1 mo (March) 1689/0

"The Grand Jury request that some speedy course and order be taken by issuing of warrants etc., to cause ye Tax to be paid in to ye Treasurers who are ordered to receive ye same and likewise that ye Receivers shall be allowed for their pains only 18d. per £ and ye assessors 6d. per pound." The Bench assented and ordered the Clerk to give warrants to the constables for distressing those who refused to make payments of the last Tax.

Constables Changed

1 mo. 1689/90

John Wright was appointed Constable in place of John Taylor and Wolle Dalbo in place of Phillip Paull.

A Partial List of Gloucester County Ratables

Before the district between Mantua Creek and Oldmans Creek was created a township Andrew Robeson Jr. assessed the inhabitants for their lands and cattle. The ratable list confirms the tradition that the Swedes settled in the lower part of Old Gloucester County. A review of the names of the early settlers there will show that the sturdy pioneers founded family dynasties still extant hereabouts. His list was as follows. It is noticeable that no sheep were listed. Wolves and panthers were too prevalent for sheep raising.

"An account of lands and cattle from the lower side of Mantoes Creek to Oldmans Creek, in the County of Gloucester, taken by Andrew Roberson Jr.,

from the third to the sixth of February 1689/90.

	Acres of		
	Land	Cattle	Horses
John Parker	500	2	
Antho. Neilson	100	6	
James Sanderson	700		
Benj. Breman	100	2	
Andrew Robeson			
Israel Helmes	300	15	3
Woola Erickson	100	4	
Hans Peterson	50	9	
Andrew Homan	200	7	
His Three Sons	250		
Andrew Lock	130	5	
Peter Gago	100		
John Rambo	130		
Andrew Robeson Jr.	200	11	
Lasse Coleman	200	12	9
James Justason	200	8	
Morton Mortonson	164		
New Stockholm and Lower Hook were in this locality.			
John Orion	213	8	1
Justa Justason	213	7	
Charles Springer	100		
John Ryan	100		
James Garron	100		
William Cobb	350	4	
Lasse Halton	100	6	1
John Anderson	50	5	
Paul Paulson	50	4	
Frederick Hopman	100	9	
Hans Hopman	150	8½	
Andrew Hopman	50	4	1
Mounts Halton	100	7	
Woola Peterson	150	5½	
John Hopman	150	8	1
Christo Watkins	840	14	6
Thomas Green	250	11	1
Richard Lawrence	1600	12	1
Rich. Moore			
for Standbank	150	14	
Daniel Lindsay	200	4	
Thomas Denney	90	4	

The assessments were one shilling for each hundred acres of land, two pence for cattle and one pence for horses with allowances for yearlings. The grand total was 6£-1s-6d

Ordinary Law Suits

Glo., 2 day of June 1690
There was a suit between Thomas Harris and Thomas Chaunders over 100 acres of land and a house the lock of which was broken.

Mordecai Howell, witness, gave testimony of a conservation with Walter Tomlinson in Philadelphia.

Henry Wood gave testimony about when Edward Howard came to ye country.

Daniel Leeds aged about 38 years submitted a written statement.

Walter Tomlinson and Walter Price had inhabited the house on the land for some time.

Chaunders the tresspasser was fined five pounds damages and costs.

Bridge, Highway, Gunning and Fishing, Grand Jury Presentments

"At a Court held at Gloucester ye 2 day 7 mo. 1690. We the grand jury present the bridge over ye lowermost branch of Timber Creek and the bridge of Great Mantua Creek and the bridge of Little Mantua Creek and the bridge of Whitaker River and the highways between the said bridges all for not being in repair."

"We present all those that goes a fowling or make a prattice of carrying of guns the first day of ye week.

"Also we present all those that make a practice of fishing with a sein in the Great River or elsewhere on ye first day of ye week.

JAMES ATKINSON
forman"

June 27, 1690—Special Court to try Isaac Adderly for accidentally killing Wm. West with a gun on 9th day of 8 mo. 1689. He was discharged. Thos. Gardener was recorded as Attorney General.

Sept. 1 & 2, 1690, Israel Helme, Jr., Mons Justeson and Wm. Cobb were tried by Jury for killing hogs with swallow tails on both ears claimed to be the mark of Hance Hopman. The records being searched ye marke proves to be ye ear marke of John Hugg. This is an interesting case of trial for the unlawful Hunting and Killing of hoggs. Hopman testified he gave them permission to hunt his hogs and John Hugg stated they did not belong to him. They were acquitted. Peter Matson, one of the witnesses, said he was up Great Mantua Creek about the first of April on acct. of burying an Indian Child of Wissomick (a chief). He saw the hogs.

Sept. 2, 1690 Dennis Lynch, ship carpenter sued Isaac Hollingham about building a boat 16 ft. long. Joseph Tomlinson testified the boat was unfinished. Lynch lost the suit. Richard

Lawrence was called Captain. Dennis Creek, N. J., was named for Dennis Linch.

Dec. 1, 1690 Wm. Cobb appealed from a verdict, favoring Daniel Reading to the General Assembly at Burlington.

This seems to have been the only appeal, possible.

William Hill and Richard Morton confessed to Justice Samuel Spicer that they had broken into the house of James Whiteall and were delivered to the custody of Daniel Reading, Sheriff, Nov. 13, 1690.

Dec. 1, 1690 Daniel Reading sheriff complained against Thomas Chaunders for contemptuous words against the magistrates and public officers of the County and resisting the Sheriff. From this time to until Dec. 1, 1692 John Hugg, Jr., was present at the terms of court as Deputy Sheriff.

Dec. 1, 1690 William Hill and Richard Morton were tried for stealing beef, awls, fish-hooks and other small things from the home of James Whiteall. Morton who confessed was sentenced to either be burned in the hand to the bone with the letter T or to be sold to pay charge and become bound by indenture to some master of a vessel or his assigns five years in Barbadoes, Jamacai or some other Island adjacent where ye said master shall dispose of him. The choice of the two punishment was left to the prisoner. Hill received a like sentence for four years. They both chose transportation. Morton had escaped from Salem jail.

Dec. 1, 1690—The Grand Jury with the consent of the Court appoints a grand jury of 15 persons to serve for the next four sessions as follows:

Henry Wood, Wm. Cooper, Richard Heritage, Sam'l. Coles, John Kay, George Goldsmith, James Atkinson, Robert Zane, Thomas Sharp, Anthony Neilson, Benjamin Bramon, Peter Dalboe, John Parker, John Rambo, William Warner. They were then and there summoned as such by the Sheriff.

Old Swedish Pioneer Indicted June 1st, 1691

Israel Helme was indicted and tried for commanding his son and servant Israel, Jr., to kill a hog. He was fined the value of the hog four fold and took

an appeal to the next Quarter Sessions Court. The records indicate that old Israel had been drinking and that the hog belonged to Andrew Robeson.

Gervace Kay probated the will of his brother Josias Kay.

September 2, 1691

John Reading, Clerk of the Court, had a suit against John Ithell. Thomas Gardiner was appointed Clerk during the trial and signed the minutes which are in the handwriting of Reading who won his suit. Ithell appealed to ye General Assembly at Burlington. James Atkinson and Thomas Thackara went on his bond for fifty pounds.

Reading also sued John Ireson and won that case. Both were suits over land.

Pillory Preferred

One John Richards, Planter of Woodbury Creek, was indicted for perjury in a case of John Browne held before Judge John Wood December 16, 1691. He was tried at Gloucester March 1, 1691/2 and convicted. On the back of the written indictment we find these remarks:

"Wee find John Richards guilty of purjury and give a verdict that ye said John Richards Stand in ye Pillory one hour tomorrow being ye second instant at Gloucester or to pay Twenty shillings fine if he rather make choyse of yt than to stand in ye pillory.

"The prisoner chuses to stand in ye pillory."

Signed by
JONATHAN WOOD
foreman"

Whipping Post and Stocks

March 1 1691/2 W. L. and A. P. were convicted of a moral transgression and sentenced. He to be whipped on his bare back with five stripes or to serve three months imprisonment. He chose the latter. She was sentenced to receive nineteen stripes upon her naked body. Twenty eight inhabitants signed a petition to the court asking for a remission of the sentence against her. Six justices were present and they unanimously ordered that the judgment should be remitted but not as a precedent for the future. She was married to L as early as March 1 1696.

John Richards was convicted of perjury in a hog killing case and was given the option of standing in a pillory one hour or paying a fine of 20 shillings. Richards chose the former and was ordered to be in Gloucester on April 2 next between the hours of ten A.M. and 4 P.M.

The sentence of A. P. the wife of S. P. resulted in a lengthy petition to the Court dated Gloucester March 1, 1691/2, signed by twenty eight inhabitants, of the adjacent neighborhood, because of her former life and good conduct and blame for circumstances.

The Court was implored to mix mercy with judgment and commiserate her infelicity and prevent her impending ruin.

Those who signed the petition written by John Reading were

Benjamin Braman
Joseph Tomlinson
John Parker
John Asbrook
William Chester
Andrew Robeson Jr
Moses Lakin
Simeon Ellis
John Kay
Jacob Cozens
Nicholas Yong
John Ladd
James Whitall
Jonathan Wood
Joseph Cooper
Mordecai Howell
John Siddon
Thomas Thackara
Thomas Shakell
Thomas Lackman
George Gouldsmith
Mathew Medcalfe
Joseph Collins
William Warner
Richard Arnold
John Wright
Richard Cantwill

Ancient Mariner

Samuel Harrison according to one of his receipts, for six pounds, fifteen shillings, sterling was master of the ship Pennsylvania May 18, 1691. He was to pay Edward Tomkins or Jane his wife in Radway, County of Warwick, Kingdom of England, the money on behalf of Richard Heritage.

Stole a Horse Ride

June 4, 1691 John Hugg Jr was indicted for taking a ride on James At-

kinsons horse captured in the woods, without consent of the owner. William Cooper was foreman of the Grand Jury.

Robert Turner was mentioned in a 1691 lawsuit as of Sweadland in Pennsylvania.

Indian Killed a Panther

Callougs hickon an Indian April 5 1692 delivered to John Wood a panther head for which the Indian was entitled to twelve guilders.

Poll Tax for Third Tenth

A Lyst of the names of those persons dwelling in the upper syde of the County of Gloucester who are obliged to pay the Provinciable taxes of 2 pence 6 shillings per head

Per me THOS. SHARP

gal 3 nu fhs con	
James Atkinson	4
William Bate	4
Thomas Thackara	5
Samuell Harrison	4
Thomas Sharp	2
George Woff	2
Mathew Medcalff	2
John Reading	1
Cathrain Howell	2
John Hugg	3
Elias Hugg	2
John Ashbrook	2
Samuell Taylor	2
James Whiteall	2
John Hilman	3
Thomas Norris	2
Caspar Fish	2
Thomas Jones	1
	45
5 lb. 12 s. 06 d	
William Cooper	5
John Hugg, Jun	4
William Alberson	5
Archibell Mickle	3
Joseph Collins	2
Ann Penston	2
George Gouldsmith	4
Joseph Cooper	2
Samuel Gibson	2
Isack Hollings	2
John Burroughs	2
Richard Arnoll	2
Hanna Wood	3
John Taylor	4
Joseph Tomlinson	1
Anthony Sharp	1
	44
5 lb. 10 s. 00 d	
Samuel Spicer	4

Mordocay Howell	3
John Wright	3
John Kay	3
Edward Burrows	2
Simeon Ellis	3
Thomas Shackle	2
Richard Herritage	4
Sanuel Coles	3
John Apleton	4
George Smith	2
William Hulings	2
James Bingham	2
Robert Zane	3
	40

5 lb. 00 s 00 d

In all it amounts unto 129 pounds.

Which Cometh to 16 lb. 02 s 06 d

The above shows the number of persons residing between Pensauken and Big Timber Creeks.

April 12, 1692

Wm. Lovejoy sued John Willis the father of Ann Penstone. She as agent for her father confessed judgment for an overdue account with costs of suit.

Burlington road passed through 100 acres of land on the east side of Cooper's Creek belonging to John Willis.

Andrew Lock, John Parker Jr., John Burroughs and Casper Fish were appointed constables.

Bridges Ordered Fixed, June 1, 1692

The bridges between Pensaukin Creek and Cooper's Creek, between Cooper's Creek and Newton Creek, between Newton Creek and Gloucester River (Great Timber Creek), Gloucester River and Woodbury Creek, between Woodbury Creek and Oldman's Creek were ordered to be made and repaired by the inhabitants in each locality.

Illness of Judges Prevented a Regular Term of Court

Sept. 1st, 1692 Francis Collins and John Wood were present but Andrew Roberson and Samuel Spicer were absent on account of sickness. Because of the lack of a quorum the court was adjourned until December 1st, 1692.

Outside Politics

The record of the December 1st, 1692 term of court discloses an interesting condition worthy of the attention of some student of the Colonial history of New Jersey. The Justices on the Bench were
Ed. Hunlok, D. Gov'r

Thos. Revell, Sec'y
Andrew Robeson
Andrew Robeson Jr.

Thomas Sharp, Sheriff.
John Reading, Clerk.

"A commission from ye Governor read constituting Edw. Hunloke, John Tatham, Andrew Robeson, Thomas Olive, Thomas Revell, John Horlidge and Andrew Robeson Jr., Justices of the Peace for ye County of Gloucester."

"The rest of ye persons for justices within ye county refused their commissions chiefly because there was noe justice of ye quorum appointed for this County here resident, so that no court could be held without one at least of ye Governor's Council being present.

* * * — ired to be rectified and Just —e quorum appointed as formerly —dence in ye County and they were ready to accept their Commissions.

The Deputy Gov'r and Sec'y promised to use their endeavors thereupon against next Court * * * such time it was referred."

Poll Tax

Thomas Sharp was appointed Collector for the upper part of the county and John Wood for ye lower part for gathering the Provincial Tax or Poll. Ye Court allows them twelve pence per pound for their pains to be paid them forth of ye county's tax.

Inn Keepers Licensed

Katharine Howell, George Webb and Matthew Medcalfe were granted a continuance of their licenses for ordinaries or houses of entertainment in the Town of Gloucester. They were to pay five shillings each to the Court for their licenses and half a Crown apiece to the clerk for writing them. Henry Treadway was granted a license at Red Bank upon the same conditions.

Ear Marks Duplicated

Henry Treadway complained against Robert Zane for using his ear mark. Treadway claimed to be the older settler of the two in the county and the Court ordered Zane to alter his hog mark.

John Hugg, Jr., declared that John Richards had paid for building of the

stocks and pillory in Gloucester and the Court ordered him discharged from the judgment formerly obtained against him for fifty pounds.

Another Tax Which Included Sheep

The Grand Jury and Bench agreed to a new tax as follows.

Each 100 acres of land 1 shilling.

Oxen, cows, each 2 pence.

Two 2 years old shall be accounted for one head and likewise ye like sum of one pence for each and every horse (that) are exceeding two years old also ye like sum of two pence and every six head of sheep payments to be made in silver money or country produce at price current.

Richard Heritage and John Kay were appointed inspectors for taking an account of each man's land and cattel within ye upper part of the county and Andrew Robeson Jr our William Warner for the lower part. Sam'l Spicer was treasurer for the Third Tenth and John Wood for the Fourth Tenth.

Inspectors were to receive twelve pence a pound and the treasurers nine pence a pound.

The 1692 tax was distributed in 1693 as follows:

	f. s. d.
Francis Collins	6- 3-10
Thomas Thackera	2- 5- 9
Thos. Sharp	1- 7- 0
James Atkinson	2-15- 5
John Kay	1-15- 0
Wm. Bate	0- 5- 0
Myself for Salary	1- 0- 0
Money for Prison lot	0-16- 8
Richard Heritage, salary	0- 7- 7
Myself as salary	0-12-11
Paid Indian for a wolf	0- 6- 0
More to Francis Collins	1- 1- 5

Unpaid by	
Freedom Lippincott	0- 5- 0
Thos. Jones	0- 2- 0
Richard Dymond	0- 5- 0
Sam'l Gibson	0- 5- 0
John Willis	0- 9- 0
Tinico (Dennis?) Lynce	0- 1- 0
James Whitall	0- 2- 4
Mathew Mecalf	0- 5- 2
Thos. Carleton	0- 2- 1

The total amount assessed
was 20-13-02

March 1, 1692/3

The Justices on the bench were the same as the December term.

"Samuel Spicer, James Atkinson, John Hugg and Thomas Gardiner Jr all attested Justices for ye County of Gloucester, their commissions being rectified as at ye last Court desired by virtue of an order from ye Governor to his deputy in these words." The record is here sadly damaged.

June 1st 1693 the following appeared on the court records:

James Atkinson
Thos Gardiner Jr
Andrew Robeson Jr
John Hugg Jr

Thos Gardiner, Atty Gen'l
Thos Sharp, Sheriff
John Wood, Coroner
John Reading, Clerk

Unpaid Bridge Builder

A tax was levied to pay a debt long overdue to Francis Collins for building two bridges over the branches of Cooper's Creek belonging to the upper part of the County. The rate was four pence forevery hundred acres surveyed within the upper part to be paid in silver money before the next Court to be held at Gloucester Sept 1st 1693.

Richard Heritage and John Kay, assessors and receivers of the tax, were to get twelve pence per pound fees.

An Indentured Irish Girl

September 1st 1693 John Hugg, of Gloucester River, complained about his servant Jane Poor whom he had transported from Ireland when about four years old. John Burroughs and his wife, the mother of Jane, had induced the girl to leave Hugg who valued her services and desired compensation. The case was left to arbitration by Samuel Spicer, James Atkinson, Thomas Gardiner, William Bate, Thomas Thackara and William Albinson. They awarded Hugg three pounds current silver money as damages or compensation for the loss of her services. Jane was about eleven years old.

It was a common practice under the Provincial laws for men, women and children immigrants to be "sold" for a number of years to work out the cost of transportation. Some writers have termed this slavery.

Wolves Ears for Bounty Receipts

It was ordered that all wolves that were killed should be taken to the nearest justice who should cut off one ear of each head and give a receipt to the "bringer."

At the September 1, 1693 term of court Samuel Spicer, James Atkinson, Thomas Gardiner and John Hugg, Jr., were present as Justices on the bench.

A dog belonging to John Burroughs which had bitten a child of Isaac Hollingham was ordered to be killed within two weeks and its head delivered to James Atkinson or else damages to be paid for damage already done by the dog.

Edward Burroughs and Samuel Gibson were presented for detaining a hue and cry and not forwarding it in pursuit of a felon for several days. They were each fined ten shillings.

A Special Court was held Jan'y 1 1693/4

"A Court held at Gloucester ye first of X ber (Dec.) Ano Dom a 1693.

Present

Samuel Spicer
James Atkinson
Thomas Gardiner
Andrew Robeson, Jr.

JUSTICES

Tho Sharp, Sheriff
John Wood, Coroner
Jno. Reading, Clerk

"The Grand Jury attested

Jno. Wood
Thos. Thackara
Wm. Bate
Jno. Kay
Sam. Tombs
Jno. Tatum
Geo. Goldsmith
Robert Zane
Jer. Bate
Wm. Warner
Richard Heritage
ffred Hopman
Wooly Peterson
Thomas Buckman

The Court adjourned for two hours."

"Matthew Medcalf requests ye renewing of his lycence which is granted and ye Clerk ordered to give forth ye same."

"George Webb requests ye Renewing of his Lycence which is granted and ye Clerk ordered to give out ye same."

"Isaac Hollingham requires a Lycence for keeping an ordinary near Newton which is granted and ye Clerk ordered to give out ye same."

"Hen. Treadway requests a continuance of his lycence which is ganted and ye Clerk ordered to give forth ye same."

"Edw. Burroughs requests a lycence for keeping an ordinary which is granted and ye Clerk ordered to give forth ye same."

"Wm. Cooper for his nonappearance is fined by ye bench 10s and ye Clerk ordered to give a warrant for levying ye same."

"Mons Lock, Constable, for his non appearance is fined ye sum of 10s and ye Clerk ordered to give a warrant to levy ye same."

"George Webb being presented for entertaining one Mary Francis big with child and likeable to become chargeable to ye county and ye said George Webb is ordered to give security for ye conveying of said Mary forth of this county to ye place from whence she came within ye space of six days next Ed. Burroughs is allowed to be security with ye said George in 100s for ye performance."

"The Grand Jury present Samll Rowland and his offence for cutting and feloniously carrying away several of ye trees belonging to Tho. Gardiner of this county, etc. and ye Clerk is ordered to grant out process for ye apprehending of ye said delinquent said to be not within ye County, 30, 9 br. (Nov.)

"ffran Jones and Pellgrim Stackdale with other abettors and accomplices presented for entering Hen. Tredways house laying violent hands upon him and feloniously taking goods out of his house and a fatt sheep out of ye penn. Ye Clerk ordered to give our process for taking ye said delinquents when to be found in this county, 24, 9 br. (Nov)

Unlawful Sales of Rum to Indians

"The Grand Jury present Rich. Whitaker for selling rum to ye Indians in or about 9 br. 1692 and contrary to ye lawes of this province."

"The Travers Jury attested to try ye causes after he had pleaded not guilty, are

John Wood
 Phill Paul
 John Ladd
 John Hilman
 John Shivers
 Hen. Wood
 Math Medcalfe
 Math Hoeman
 George Webb
 Jno. Ashbrook
 And. Hopman
 Hen. Treadway

Mary Burroughs being attested saith that she saw ye Indians give ye said prisoner 15d which was for a bottle of rum which he was to fetch from ye house.

Tho. Buckman attested saith that saw ye Indians have rum in a bottle and that ye prisoner confessed he had sold ye Indians rum."

"The Grand Jury present John Ireson for his selling of rum to ye Indians about fifteen months ago contrary to ye laws in that case made, etc.

Mary Francis being attested saith that about 15 months ago and at Sundry places she saw in ye summer ano. Dom. 1692 John Ireson sell and deliver to Indians both rum, cider and peach liquors and that she herself at ye command of her master ye said Ireson hath several times delivered rum to ye Indians in a half pint and further saith not" Sig. Mary (mark) X ffrancis."

"The Travers Jury return and find ye prisoner Rich. Whitaker guilty of selling ye Indians rum."

"The Bench gives Judgment for ye prisoner to pay ye sum of three pound pursuant to ye law in ye case made with cost of suit."

"Wm. Louvjay solemnly promises to appear at ye next Court held at Gloucester and to be of very good behaviour untill ye said Court."

A Poor Man's Petition

"To ye worshipfulls, your Majesties Justices sitting ye Court at Gloucester December 1st Anno Dom 1693.

"The humbl petition of Roger Corsard sheweth that your poor petitioner being thru old age and decrepidness of body reduced to much pennury and want and without some contribution or assistance for my menteynance my wants both for a diet and clothes is like to prove all together insupportable, ye extrmity of winter now ap-

proaching, therefore that you would please to take some effectual care for ye relieving of me in ye premises above said is ye earnest request and prayer of your petitioner.

ROGER CORSARD

Endorsed on the back

"This petition referred to ye consideration of ye Grand Jury who may relieve ye said petitioner's want by ordering some small tax for his support or otherwise as to you may seem meet.

We the Grand Jury think it not meet at ye present to raise a tax for the petitioner but refer him to the bench to prevail with some to lay down present supply and be repaid out of ye next County Tax.

JOHN WOOD, foreman

March 1st 1693/4

Thos. Revell, Sec'y
 Sam'l Spicer
 James Atkinson
 Thos. Gardiner Jr.
 Andrew Robeson Jr.
 John Hugg Jr.
 Thos. Sharp, Sheriff
 John Reading, Clerk
 John Wood, Coroner

John Ireson was acquitted of selling rum to the Indians.

Daniel Cooper was granted a license for an ordinary at his dwelling house and John Reading a ferry license over Gloucester River and to Philadelphia.

Salem Road was ordered turned from Mantos Creek to the mouth of Gloucester River.

In a case tried June 1st 1694 the defendant was too poor to pay the debt with costs and therefor became bound for a period of one year for fourteen pounds current silver money. The verdict was 5f 6s 9½d.

June 1, 1694

John Ashbrook, Griffith Morgan, Wm. Chester and Matthew attested constables for one year.

Thomas Dixford, a poor person, was bound to Mons Cock for one year to work out a debt of five pounds six shillings and nine pence.

John Willis of East Chalon in County of Berks, England.

**Prison, Court House and More
Taxes Suggested**

The June 1, 1694 Grand Jury presented the great necessity for a prison and court house also the need of funds to pay the Assemblyman, Governor Hamilton, etc.

"It was agreed that a tax be laid upon ye inhabitants' estates both real and personal in manner following, viz: ye sum of two shillings for each and every hundred acres of land surveyed and taken up in ye County. The sum of two shillings per head for all horses and mares exceeding one year old. The sum of one shilling per head for all cows, oxen and other cattle of that kind being above one year old and ye sum of three pence per head for all sheep above one year old. And also that each and every free man whether in hired service or otherwise being resident and inhabitants within this County shall pay ye sum of six shillings and further that all owners of negroes shall pay ye sum of six shillings per head for each and every one over three years old, payable in silver money before first of November next. Richard Heritage was collector for the upper half of the County, formerly the Third Tenth; John Kay for the lower half of Fourth Tenth; Andrew Robeson and William Warner and ye collectors to have nine pence per pound for their labor in receiving, paying &c."

"Arthur Powell attested constable ye township of Weymouth in this county of Gloucester until ye court to be held at Gloucester aforesaid on the first day of September next." This was the first representation from the Sea Coast section and mention of Weymouth township.

Another Greenwich Township assessment list of probably 1694, was as follows:

	Land Acres	Cattle	Horses	Sheep
John Parker, Sr.	80	6		
John Parker, Jr.	140			
Robert Parker	140	1		
James Parker	140	1		
Antho. Neilson	100	8	1	
John Enno Freeman				
Thos. Taper Freeman				
Jacob Cussons	250	7		

Charles Crostway	200			
Benj. Braman	100	9		
Garret Van Iman and William David	1000	10		9
Israel Helmes	200	18	1	1
Mounts and John Lockes	130	6		
Mathew Lasse and Woola Howman	250	4		
Andrew Hopman	200	8		
Widow Peterson	150	10		
Jasper Gaest	100	6		
Andrew Robeson, Jr.	750	25	12	8
Cornelius and Cannont Justason	300	7		
John Orion, Morton & Justa	600			
John Ryan	100	7		
James Garron	100	7		
Woola Peterson	150	7		1
Lasse Cassoway Freeman				
John Hopman	200	16	2	8
Andrew Hopman	150	6		3
Mounts Hopman	150	6	2	2
Fred'k Hopman	100	12	3	6
Mounts Halton	200	13		6
John Anderson	50	8		1
Paul Paulson	50	9	1	
Lasse Halton	100	12		6
Hans Woolson for Co. Empson	400	13	2	4
Thos. Green for Horton	250	12		17
George Lawrence	1600	13	4	4
Daniel Lindsay	200	6		1
Peter Lashoomate	100	5		
Thos. Denney	90	6		1
Cornelius Empson for Watkins	440			
Andrew Robeson	700			

The total of the above assessments for the township of Greenwich of which Andrew Robeson was assessor amounted to twenty-eight pounds, sixteen shillings and ten pence. The free-men were assessed six shillings each. Land was assessed at two shillings for each hundred acres, cattle at one shilling per head, sheep three pence per head and horses at one shilling each.

**Burlington County Justices Sat With
Those of Gloucester County**

Edward Hunloke, John Tathem and Thomas Revell of Burlington County sat on the bench with the Gloucester County Justices at the September 1st, 1694 term and dissented from a decision concerning John Roberts and

William Matlack. They also dissented in another case.

The Gloucester County Justices were Samuel Spicer, Thos. Gardiner, John Hugg, Andrew Robeson, James Atkinson and John Kay. John Wood was sheriff and John Reading was clerk.

An Appeal to a Higher Court

John Hugg appealed a judgment against him to the next Court of Appeals at Burlington which was granted in case he should pay the cost of the local law suit against John Burroughs and give security that the appeal would be prosecuted. John Hugg, Jr. and Francis Collins became his sureties.

Edward Eglinton was granted a license for keeping an ordinary in Gloucester at this term of Court.

"At a Court held at Gloucester on ye first day of December anno 1694 Present

Samuel Spicer
Andrew Robeson, Jun.
James Atkinson
John Kay
John Hugg, Jun.

Justices on ye bench

John Wood Sheriff
John Reading Cl. Ph.

The Grand inquest attested.

Thomas Thackara

Robert Zane

Jer. Bates

Jos. Cooper

Simeon Ellis

Thomas Shackle

Archibald Whiteall

James Whiteall

Thomas Penston

Jos. Lord

John Parker, Jun.

John Wright

Henry Johnson

Robert Parker

Samuel Taylor

These persons

George Lawrence

Lacy Homan

John Shivers

Edward Burroughs

Dan Lindsey

Cornelius Justeson

being summoned to appear as jurors and making default the bench fines each and every of them ten shillings per man and ye clerk ordered to give out warrants to levy ye same by way

of distress if they make any default in ye payment thereof.

"Joseph Tomlinson produces ye will of Dan Downall deceased and craves a probate thereof. The courte orders ye clerk to give ye same and take security for ye true performance thereof.

The courte adjourns for two hours.

The courte again being sate.

"Henry Treadyway and William Chester requesting administration of ye estate of John Driver who died intestate the bench order Thomas Gardiner and John Ladd justly and honestly to appraise ye said estate and ye two persons above said do bring an inventory of ye estate to two of ye justices of this county they shall have permission granted in behalf of giving security for their faithful administration.

"The bench order that ye clerk shall give out warrants to distress upon all such persons that shall neglect or refuse to pay their particular parts of ye County tax longer than ye 14th of January next. Ye collector to give in an account to ye clerk of all such persons which shall so refuse.

"The Sherriff makes returns of amounts whereby he hath distrained upon John Roberts ye bench allow of ye said order and sale and ye money returned into next courte."

Married Contrary to Law

We the Grand Jury do present John Langly and Susana Wainwright for marrying contrary to law and a justice's order.

Signed by

JOHN RAMBO, Foreman.

March 1, 1694-5

Assented to by the bench and ye said parties being sent for they crave traverse till ye next courte which is granted by ye next bench being given security for their appearance.

"At court held at Gloucester on ye first of March Anno Dom 1694-5.

Samuel Spicer

Andrew Robeson

Thomas Gardiner

James Atkinson

John Hugg, Jun.

John Kay

Justices present on ye bench

John Wood, Sheriff

John Reading, Ch. Com.

The Grand Jury attested

John Rambo

Simeon Ellis
 William Warner
 Benjamin Bramon
 William Clark
 Isaac Wood
 Thomas Shackle
 Josuah Lord
 Jeremiah Bate
 Joseph Collins
 John Tatum
 Peter Matson
 John Ladd
 Elias Hugg
 Woolley Dalboe
 Nath. Zane

Court adjourns for one hour.

"The court being sate Rachael Tomes produces the last will of her husband and craves a probate thereof which ye clerk is ordered to give and take security for her faithful administration etc.

"Elizabeth Zane produces ye last will of her deceased husband and craves a probate thereof which ye court orders ye clerk to give and take security for her faithful administration and bring in an inventory to ye next court.

"Mordecia Howell craves a license for keeping an ordinary at his dwelling house and ye clerk is ordered to give one and take security for keeping good order.

"Samuel Spicer, Dan Cooper and Joseph Cooper executors of ye last will and test'ant of Henry Wood produces ye same and craves a probate thereof which is granted and ye clerk ordered to give forth ye same and take security for their faithful administration and bringing in an inventory of ye estate at ye next court.

Mathew Medcalfe craves a license for keeping an ordinary in Gloucester, which ye bench grants and orders ye clerk to give forth ye same and take security for his keeping good order.

Isaac Wood produces a will of his sd deceased father Jonathan Wood and craves a probate of ye same which ye court grants and orders ye clerk to give forth and take security for his faithful administration etc.

The inhabitants within ye bounds of Great Mantos Creek to Barclay River request that ye same division be made and laid into a township and called by ye name of Greenwich and that ye same be so recorded which ye bench

assents to and orders ye same to be done.

John Langly and Susana Wainwright presented by ye grand jury for being married contrary to law, etc. The sd parties appearing crave a traverse till ye next court which is granted by ye bench and ye Langly enters into recognizance for their appearing at ye next court as aforesaid in hoc urba. "I John Langly do hereby oblige myself in ye sum of forty pounds to our Sovereign Lord and Lady ye King and Queen to be levied upon my goods and chattels lands and tenements for my own and ye above sd Susana Wainwright appearance at ye next court to be held at Gloucester on ye first of June next and ye abiding of ye determination of ye Court.

Witness my hand this first of March Anno 1694.

JOHN X LANGLEY
 his mark

Ferry Between Gloucester and Wickacoe

At ye Court held at Gloucester ye 1 th of ye 4th mo 1695. Wee ye grand jury having taken into consideration ye great want of a ferry over ye mouth of Gloucester River and also from Gloucester to Wickacoe do finde John Reading willing to undertake and keep ye sd ferry at ye prices following viz. for a single hors and man 2 s 6 d and 2 s per head for more than one hors or cow, etc. and 1 s 6 d for a single man and 1 s per head when more than one from Gloucester to Wickacoe: and 5 d per head for horses, cows, etc. and 2 d per head for man without horses or cattle over Gloucester River

Signed P Willm Warner, Foreman
 The Bench assents hereto

Daniel Cooper's Ferry to Philadelphia

The 1th of ye 4 th mo 1695

To yee gran Jury siting yee court at Gloster.

Plese may sertifie that Danyel Cowper being importuned by severall of ye nighbour hood to keep ye ferry again find ye great want of it he proposes followeth that is to say 1 s 6 d for man and a hors and 1 s 3 d for a single hors or cow and 10 d for a single man and 6 d per hed for two or more and 6 d p hed for sheep, calfs or hogs

Endorsed

Wee ye Grand Jury doe assent to the within mentioned proposals of Daniel Cooper. Signed

P Willm Warner
Foreman

The Bench assents hereto

George Lawrence, son of Richard Lawrence, on the 1st of June, 1695 was fined ten shillings for not being present as a grand juror, at the December 1st 1694 term of court. He testified that he could not leave home because he had to look after cattle. He quoted his father's Bible record to prove that he was not of age, being born the 12th day of October, 1674 at Wapping in the parish of Whit-Chapple.

William Steele, merchant, is described in 1697 as late of Cork, Kingdom of Ireland.

Township Divisions

"Whereas there was a law made ye last Assembly that ye Countys shall be divided into townships Wee ye Grand Jury do therefore order that from Pensauquan alis Cropwell Creek to ye lowermost branch of Coopers Creek shall be one township, and from ye sd branch of Coopers Creek to Willm Albertsons Creek which bounds Gloucester to be another Township and from ye said Albertsons Creek to ye lowermost branch of Gloucester River to be another Township, and from Gloucester River to Great Mandaes Creek to be another township and from Great Mandaes Creek to Oldmans Creek to be another township; and wee do nominate Edward Burroughs, constable for the uper most township and Jeremiah Bates constable for Newton Township and Willm Bates and Tho. Sharp for ye regulating and laying out of highways and we do nominate Elias Hugg to be constable for Gloucester Township and Jacob Cozens Constable for Greenwich Township and William Chester constable for Dedford Township"

Signed p. Willm Warner, foreman"
"Ye first of ye (June)" The Bench assents hereto fourth mo 1695"

Joseph Tomlinson Inn Keeper at Red Bank

2d 7 br (Sept.) 1695

"The action of Sarah Harrison against Edw Eglinton called and withdrawn."

"Joseph Tomlinson craves a lycence for keeping ordinary at Red bank wich is granted and ye Clerk ordered to give it and take security, etc."

It is highly probable that Joseph and Elizabeth Tomlinson started house keeping after their marriage on the Red Bank Battlefield farm afterward purchased by James Whitall. They lived on the plantation of 415 acres when Whitall purchased it.

Sealer of Weights and Measures

2d 7 mo, 1695

The Bench appointed a sealer of weights and measures of the standards of England.

All weights and measures including bushels and half bushels were ordered to be tested before November 1st next. The sealer was to get 12 d for bushels and half bushels and 6 d for smaller measures.

All weights, one penny per weight.

All quarts, pints, etc., 3d per measure.

A Visiting Shad Thief

Grovely: ye 26 of ye 9 mo 1695
To Joseph Tomlinson High Sheriff for the County of Gloucester

I hath sent thee herewith all ye body of John P. Ponson of Philadelphia who was this day brought before and charged by George Webb, near Salem, with stealing one barrel of Shadds out of his seller in Gloucester, ye which he upon examination confest he had them but bought them of one of Edward Smoutt's men: Thou are therefore commanded to take him into thy custody, him ye said John Ponston, and him safely to keep until he be from thence delivered by due course of law; hereof fail not as thou will answer ye contrary and for thy so doing this shall be thy sufficient warrant. Given under my hand and seal ye Day and year above said.

Tho: Gardiner

Expensive Shad

The account of charges of disbursements and expenses of George Webb pertaining to the barrel of shad stolen by John Ponson shows a total of 10£, 5s, 4d., which included six pounds for the shad. The culprit was hunted by constables in Philadelphia, Burlington and Gloucester counties.

The bill included seventeen days diet for the prisoner amounting to 1£, 14s.

A Neighborhood Scrap of 1695-6

Joseph Tomlinson was appointed sheriff of Gloucester County May 12, 1695 and was probably married about that time to Elizabeth Walker presumed to be the daughter of John Walker. The next year on May 12, 1696 he was appointed King's Attorney of Gloucester County and later, in 1698, he was a Judge. At the time James Whitall purchased the Red Bank plantation consisting of 41½ acres of Henry Treadway, April 20, 1700. Joseph and Elizabeth Tomlinson were its tenants.

It would have been somewhat embarrassing to Joseph to have to subpoena his own wife as sheriff and prosecute her, as King's Attorney. Fortunately the predicament did not have serious results.

The tenor of the arbitrators' report "for the ending of all differences from the beginning of the world to the date hereof," indicates it was a neighborhood scrap of minor character but very intense.

Thomas Thackera, the foreman of the grand jury that indicted Elizabeth, was also one of the arbitrators.

The copies of the original manuscript documents in the case will be of interest to the readers of The Constitution, especially to those who are familiar with Judge John Clement's History of Newton Township. His conjecture about the homestead of Joseph Tomlinson was wrong and his effort to identify his wife was futile. The compiler's beloved wife was a descendant of Joseph and Elizabeth Tomlinson and he, too, failed to identify Elizabeth Tomlinson until he unexpectedly found the following loose papers.

October, Ye 28, Ano. Dom. 1695

Upon ye complaint of Sarah Harrison, Edward Eglington and Sarah his wife being convinced before me one of his Majesty's Justices of Ye Peace of this County of Gloucester upon her attestation depose that on or about ye 10th day of ye 7th last the said Edward Eglington did confess and declare to her ye sd Sarah that his wife Sarah Eglington had formerly received of Elizabeth wife of Joseph Tomlinson when servant to ye Sarah Harrison one piece of Beefe, one apple pye and some molassis in a Bottle being ye

proper goods of her ye said Sarah Harrison and that he had charged her viz his sd. wife for ever receiving any more saying that if he knew that she did he would come and inform her ye said Sarah Harrison of it himself and further saith not.

SARAH HARRISON

Attested before me ye day
and year above written
John Hugg Jr

October ye 28th An Dom 1695

Upon ye Complaint of Sarah Harrison against Edward Eglington and Sarah his wife for that they ye said Edward and Sarah did abett and encourage Elizabeth wife of Joseph Tomlinson (formerly servant to ye said Complainants) to embezzle, make away and illegally destroy several of ye goods and chattels of Samuel Harrison husband of ye said Sarah. **Whereupon** ye said Edward Eglington upon his examination before me one of the King's Justices of this county of Gloucester did not deny ye possession of such goods as publicly charged against him by ye said complainant but did receive from ye said Elizabeth aforesaid was received upon truth and honesty's account, that something he did receive himself but not with design to prejudice or furnish ye said complaints in any wise whatsoever.

JOHN HUGG JR

**Security Bond in the Handwriting of
Joseph Tomlinson, Sheriff**

Know all men by these present that I Joseph Tomlinson of ye Read Banke within ye County of Gloucester and Division of West Jersey, yeoman, doth stand formally bound unto our Sovereign Lord ye King in ye sum of One Hundred pounds current silver money of this Province for ye well and true payment whereof. I bind myself my Heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns formally by these presents in writing and whom of same ye sd Joseph Tomlinson hath hereunto sett his hand and seal this.

Now if ye said Joseph Tomlinson's wife Elizabeth shall personally appear at ye next Court held at Gloucester for our Sovereign Lord ye King ye first day of December next to answer ye complaint of Sarah Harrison and to

abide ye Judgment of ye said Court then this obligation to be void otherwise to stand and remain in full power.

(SEAL) JOSEPH TOMLINSON

I Sarah Harrison as attorney and on ye behalfe of my Husband Samuel Harrison doe hereby acknowledge my self so stoo'd? firmly bound to our sovereign Lord ye King in ye sum of fourty pounds. To be levied upon ye goods and chattels and property of my said husband upon this condition that if I do not appear at ye Court at Gloucester on ye 2nd day of X br next then and there on ye behalf of our Lord ye King to present Edward Eglington and Sarah his wife of Gloucester aforesaid.

Witness my hand this 28th day 8 br (Oct.) Ano Dom 1695

SARAH HARRISON

To ye Sheriff for ye County of Gloucester or Deputy Greeting

These are in ye Kings name and by ye Authority of ye Gov'or of this Province to require you to give summons to Edward Eglington of Gloucester and Sarah his wife personally to appear at yt Court to be held at Gloucester on ye Second day of December next and there to answer ye suit of Samuel Harrison of Gloucester and Sarah his wife in an action of ye case and hereof fails not and make return hereof at ye same Court wherein this shall be your sufficient warrant. Given under my hand and seal this 23d of November Ano 1695.

JOHN HUGG, Jr.

Endorsed

The within warrant was legally executed on the 25 day November 1695.

Joseph Tomlinson, Sheriff

The Indictment

Gloucester The 2d of the
10th mo (Dec.) 1695

The Juriors of ouor Lord the King beeing mett ass Abovesayd doo presentt thatt Elizabeth Walker now the wife of Joseph Tomlinson did ffelloniously take from the house of Samuell Harrison. A bottle of mallasses, a peice of beeff & an apple pye—& the Juriors further presentt that Edward Eglington did ayde & Receive from the Sayd Elizabeth after She had stolen the same from the sayd house of Samll Harrison.

Signed in the behalf of the Grand Jury by our foreman.

THOMS. THACKERA

Gloucester, the first day of the fourth
(June) month 1696

Whereas this day a certain suit was pending in Court betwixt Samuel Harrison and Sarah his wife plaintiffs on the one part and Edward Eglington and Elizabeth the wife of Joseph Tomlinson defendants on the other part it was in Court agreed by both parties that James Atkinson, Thomas Thackerie, Samuel Spicer and John Wood should hear all parties and under their hands and seals give in their award for the ending of all differences from the beginning of the World to the date hereof and we having fully heard all parties and taken deliberate consideration thereof do Award as followeth

That whereas it doth appear to us that in that breach of trust Elizabeth the wife of Joseph Tomlinson did carry or convey certain goods from the house of Samuel Harrison to the house of Edward Eglington who did receive them, both which offenses was the course of suit. Therefor wee Award that Edward Eglington do pay one half of the Court Charges and Joseph Tomlinson in behalf of his wife the other half and that the said Edward Eglington and his wife and Elizabeth the wife of Joseph Tomlinson do acknowledge that they are sorry for that they gave the occasion and cause of suit.

And we the Arbitrators do order that this award be recorded.

James Atkinson
Thomas Thackara
Samll Spicer
John Wood

This is a peculiar incident, namely a criminal case settled by arbitration.

Cooper's Ferry

Gloucester the 2d of the 10 mo. 1695

Whereas some time ago Daniel Cooper accepted the keeping of a ferry in order to the accommodating all persons who should have occasion to make use of the same and inasmuch as of late he hath had occasion to break up housekeeping whereby it hath rendered him incapable to support the same therefore since the neglect of the same is like to be injurious to the Province

in General we the Grand Jury have met at this time to appoint and make choyce of Will Cooper to keep the ferry open the same rates that his son accepted it last upon.

Signed on the behalf of the Grand Jury by the foreman.

THOMAS THACKARA

Somers Point Ferry

The 2'd of the 10th mo (16)95

The Grand Jury for the County of Gloucester doe appoyntt and make Choyce of John Somers to keep a ffery over Great Egg harbor for man: hors & Kattle; to pass to Cape May & from Cape may: to Eastt Jarsy and other parts as passengers may have occasion

Signed in the behalf of the Grand Jury by ouer foreman, at ye price already fixed by ye assembly

THOMAS THACKERA

The Bench assents unto and "at ye price already fixed by ye assembly" was added in another handwriting.

A Court held at Gloucester ye second day of December Ano. Dom. 1695.

Justices present—

Samuel Spicer
Tho: Gardiner
John Hugg Jr
John Kay
John Rambo
John Somers
Joseph Tomlinson, Sheriff
John Reading, Cl. Pa., &c.

The Grand Jury was composed of—

Thomas Thackera
John Hugg
Wm. Warner
John Ladd
Jno. Ashbrook
Jno. Ireson
Mord. Howell
Henry Johnson
Thomas Sharp
Simeon Ellis
Wm. Alberson
Tho: Dennis
Woolley Dalbo
Paul Paulson
Ben. Bramon

"Israel Ward, Wm. Ward, Saml. Taylor, Ann Brown, Rebec. Narrice, Tho: Penston, Rich: Heritage & Jos: Heritage attested for our Lord ye King against Edward Eglington, Sar: his wife and Eliz. Tomlinson and so sent forth to ye Grand Jury."

The action of Edw Eglington and Sar: his wife against Samuel Harrison & Sar his wife being called. The Declaration Reade: ye Cause opened. The Defend't pleads not guilty of speaking ye words as in ye declaration set forth. "Thos. Taper attested on behalfe of Plaintiff saith"

That amongst divers other words he heard ye Deft. call ye plaint Indian Sunburnt Bitch and theevish whore but cannot positively say that he heard her say that ye Deft had stole John Readings sheets as in ye declaration expressed."

Other testimony was given and the Plaintiff was awarded five pence damages.

"The action of Saml Harrison & Sarah his wife against Edw. Eglington & Sar. his wife being called the Declaration being read. The Cause opened. The same Jury attested. The Deft pleads not guilty of speaking ye words in manner and forme."

Witnesses consisting of Justice Hugg, Elias Hugg and Margaret Hugg the Deft had said among other aggravating words "if I hire my body I hire my Tayle."

The verdict was for the plaintiff twenty shillings and cost of suit. Execution was ordered if damages and costs were not paid within ten days.

The action of John Reading against Edw. Eglington was called and withdrawn.

The Grand Jury Returne and Presents Eliz: present wife of Joseph Tomlinson for feloniously taking from ye house of Saml Harrison a bottle of molasses a piece beef and an apple py and Edw. Eglington for abetting aiding and receiveing ye said goods from ye said Eliz. after she had stolen ye same as aforesaid."

"The parties crave a Traversers untill next Court wch is granted, they giving security for their appearance."

"I Joseph Tomlinson do hereby acknowledge my selfe to stand indebted to our Lord ye King in ye sum of fourty pounds to be levyed upon my goods and chattels, lands and Tenents in Case my wife Eliz. Tomlinson Doe not appear at ye Court held at Gloucester in ye first of March next then to answer such things which shall be objected against her on behalfe of our Lord ye King and to abide ye determi-

nation of ye said Court. Witness my hand this 2d of December 95.

JOSEPH TOMLINSON.

Edward Eglinton furnished bond for his appearance.

The First Jail

"The Grand Jury takeing into Consideration ye great want of a prison in this County and to save ye same from further damage doe agree and order That a prison be made with all convenient expedition. Built sixteen feet long, twelve foot wide in ye clear and eight foot high to be made of Loggs with a floor of Loggs above and belowe covered with Cedar shingles and a partition in ye middle. John Reading and Matthew Medcalfe to employ persons and agree of price with such who shall undertake ye same to be paid ye charge forth of ye tax laid for that purpose."

"To which ye Bench assents."

"The Grand Jury taking into Consideration ye Damage that may occur for want of a ferry occasioned by Daniel Coopers leaving off House Keeping, and thereby incapable to observe ye same as it ought Doe appoint and agree that Wm Cooper shall keep ye sd ferry over to Philadelphia at ye Certaine rates or prices last settled upon his son Daniel by this Court." "To which ye Bench assents."

Somer's Point Ferry

"The Grand Jury order & appoint John Somers to keep ye ferry over Great Egg Harbour for all passengers either single or with horses and other Cattell at ye rates or prices already fixed by ye General Assembly." "To wch ye Bench Assents."

March Term of Court 1695-6

Samuel Spicer, Thos. Gardiner, John Hugg, Jr., John Kay, Justices; Jos. Tomlinson, Sheriff; John Wood, Coroner; John Reading, Clerk were present at the term of Court held at Gloucester March 2, 1695-6.

The cases of Elizabeth Tomlinson and Edward Eglinton were carried over to the next term of Court.

Matthew Medcalfe was granted a license for an ordinary.

"The Grand Jury return. Present ye want of a ferry over ye mouth of Gloucester River order a passable way to be made thereto to Gloucester and ye road through ye town bounds to be marked & cleared before ye next Court. Propose Elias Hugg to keep ye ferry

aforesd. who shall or may take for every single person three pence and for a man and horse six pence. Elias Hugg undertakes ye same and ye bench concurs therewith."

Joseph Tomlinson gave security for 40f for his wife's appearance at June 1st 1696 term of Court, likewise Edward Eglinton for the same amount for his appearance.

June Court 1696

Samuel Spicer, Tho. Gardiner, Andrew Robeson, John Kay, John Somers, Justices; Joseph Tomlinson, Sreriff; John Wood, Coroner; John Reading, Clerk; Grand Jurors: Tho. Thackara, Simeon Ellis, Tho. Sharp, Hen. Johnson, Jos. Cooper, Jno. Wright, Isaac Wood, John Strong, Wm. Alberson, Woolly Peterson, Hance Halton, Nath. Zane, Andr. Lock, John Hopman and Richard Arnold were present at Gloucester Court June 1st 1696.

Huggs Ferry

Elias Hugg was granted a license for a ferry from Gloucester River to Philadelphia for a man and horse, 3 shillings, cattle per head, 2 shillings and 6 pence; single man, 18 pence.

John Hugg, Thos. Sharp and Thos. Gardiner were ordered to mend, mark, etc., the way about ten miles from Gloucester leading towards Great Egg Harbor to be paid for out of the county tax.

Court House and Jail at Gloucester

The Court ordered a prison 20 ft. long sixteen ft. wide and of a sufficient height and strength to be made of logs and erected and built in Gloucester with a Court House over the same of a convenient height and largeness covered with cedar shingles. Matthew Medcalfe and John Reading were to have charge of the project.

James Steelman was elected overseer of highways to mark and make the road from Egg Harbor towards Gloucester with power to summons the inhabitants of Egg Harbor for that purpose.

The actions of Sam'l Harrison against Elizabeth Tomlinson and Edward Eglinton were submitted to arbitration. The agreements and award are set forth at length in the Court Minutes of June 1st 1696.

Griffith Morgan was granted a license for an Ordinary in his dwelling

house and John Brown one at Upton on Gloucester River.

At the court of December 1st, 1696 Joseph Tomlinson was recorded as Kings Attorney. Elias Hugg was discharged as constable of his precinct and Wm. Ward was attested in his place.

June 1st 1697 a new road was ordered laid from the Falls of Oldmans Creek to the mouth of Gloucester River (Big Timber Creek) and from Elias Hugg's to the old road in the most convenient place.

Isaac Holloway was granted a license for an ordinary.

Jeremiah Bates and Jacob Cozens were succeeded respectively by Thomas Norrice and Cornelius Justeson as constables.

September 2, 1697 The bridge of ye northerly Branch of Gloucester River and the log bridge in the work thereof were ordered to be repaired.

A special Court was held at Gloucester July 3, 1697 to try a case of John Moon vs Robert Clinton. The case not being properly presented another special Court was held July 8th, 1697. Judgment was taken by default against Clinton.

No Jurors Present

At the June term 1698 also the September and December terms no jurors were present and no cases were tried.

"To the Honorable Courte in Gloucester wee whose names are under righting doe present the bridge betweene Timber Crick and ye mount. But nearest to Timber Crick, for it is not in order for travellers to pass over; for John Dalglish and his horse had licke to beene drowned if it had not beene by ye helpe of God Almighty and ye asisttence of me Daniel Hurstling of Long Island which wee booth humbly desire the honorable Courte and Grand Jury to take it in consideration that it may be made fit for ye next travellers that go that way soe wee remaine your
Humble surbants

DANIEL HURSTLIN
JOHN DALGLISH"

Destruction of John Reading's House, a Brewhouse and Public Records

During 1698 Samuel Harrison and John Reading, plaintiffs brought suit against Anthony Blaney.

They had hired Blaney to make malt and brew beer, etc., at John Reading's malt house in Gloucester town. Six hundred bushels of barley spoiled and no merchantable beer or malt was produced by the defendant who posed as an expert. On May 21, 1698 the malt house was burned. All the brewery utensils, malt and barley and the dwelling house of John Reading together with many deeds, books, evidences, rolls and writings of public concern and belonging to the Province of West New Jersey were totally consumed as a result of the carelessness, ignorance, negligence of Blaney who had been employed for a term of seven years.

Reading and Harrison claimed damages to the amount of 1000 pounds.

Reading was the clerk of the West Jersey Proprietors as well as Gloucester County. September 1, 1698 Jeremiah Bass, Governor, Thomas Revell, Secy, Nathan Westland, Joseph Braman and Mordecai Howell were present upon the bench.

The Brew House Lots Is Still Known As Such In Gloucester County

On June 1, 1803 in Book G, page 364 of the County Clerk's office a deed was recorded to a Methodist Society. This deed recites title back to Thomas Matthews September 5, 1687 to James Thomas, of Philadelphia. Thomas conveyed two hundred acres to Wolle Swanson, of Philadelphia, "which deed of Exchange was burned in and with the office of Records."

Wolle Swanson, of Wicacoe, Philadelphia County, willed May 7, 1692 the land to his children.

His relict Lydia Swanson prayed that James Thomas would release and quit claim the land to her which he did June 11, 1700.

This reference shows that some public documents were burned in the dwelling house of John Reading, May 21, 1698 and is the only evidence the writer has ever seen about the destruction by fire of public records of Old Gloucester County, despite the oft-heard claims to that effect.

John D. F. Morgan found the 1803 deed while hunting for information about the Methodist Episcopal Church of Blackwood.

Andrew Robeson Claimed Bass Was Not Governor and Benjamin Braman Was Not Sheriff

John Parker, Sr., Hester Parker his wife, Robert Parker, Charles Crostwait, John Parker, Jr. and James Parker on September 2, 1698 made affidavits before Joseph Braman, Justice, that Andrew Robeson of Greenwich Township, at Gloucester, between Matthew Medcalfe's house and the Delaware River, had stated that he would harm Jeremiah Bass and drive him into the river. That he would not acknowledge him as Governor because he "was no created Governor and Benjamin was no created sheriff; William Warner was a created sheriff" and what he said he would "stand by and maintain." Part of the statements were also made at the house of Captain Israel Helme where Lieutenant Andrew Robeson, under Captain John Reading, was then present.

Benjamin Braman, brother of Joseph, was sheriff in 1698 and William Warner was sheriff in 1697 and 1699.

Delinquent Jurors Fined

To the high sheriff for ye County of Gloucester or deputy Greeting:
Province West Jersey—Whereas:

George Lawrence
Lawrence Holton
Frederick Hopman
William Peterson
John Lock
Andrew Lock
Peter Mattson
George Ward
Henry Johnson
John Shivers
John Ladd
Daniel Linsey
Paul Paulson
James Garrian
Canute Justeson
Wm. Booman
Hermanius Holme
Isaac Wood
Thomas Buckman
Thomas Shackle
Richard Heritage
Peter Lashomate
John String
Mons. Holten
Mathew Matson
Andrew Hooman
Garret VanImma
James Ward

Simeon Ellis
John Wright
Thomas Nixon

All of ye County of Gloucester were summoned and did neglect to appear as jurrors at ye court held ye first day of this present instant September for which default each and every of them was then and there fined ye sum of ten shillings per man which they have hitherto neglected or refused to make payment of.

Therefore this is in ye Kings name and by authority of ye Governor of this province to require you the above sd fined ten shillings per man of each and every of ye persons above sd to demand and receive and in case they or any of them shall neglect or refuse to make payment thereof then ye same to levy by way of distress to be had and taken upon ye goods and chattels of him and them respectively who shall make default in paying of his and their particular fine above sd and after apraisment had sale made and all lawful charges thereby accruing defrayed the over plus if any be to return to ye first owner and hereof fail not and make returne hereof and of your doing herein at ye court to be held at Gloucester on ye first day of December next and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant given under our hands and seals this 12th day of September Ano Dom. 1698.

THOMAS REVELL
JOSEPH BRAMAN

Constables Fined

To the High Sheriff for ye County of Gloucester or deputy Greeting:

Whereas William Ward (crossed off), Cornelius Justeson (crossed off), Edward Burroughs No. 3 one of ye constables for ye County of Gloucester did refuse or neglect to give their attendance at ye court held at Gloucester on ye first of instant September notwithstanding one of them vis. Cornelius Justeson was there as jurror summoned to appear for which default each and every of them were fined ye sum of ten shillings per man which they have hitherto refused or neglected to make payments of therefore this is in ye Kings name and by ye authority of ye Governor of this province to require you to demand of ye persons above said their respective fines ten shillings per man and in case they or

any of them shall refuse or neglect to make payment thereof then ye same to levy by way of distress to be had and taken upon his and their goods chattels who shall make such default and after appraisement have sale made thereof and lawful charges thereby accruing defrayed the overplus if any be to return to ye first owner and hereof fail not and make return hereof at ye court to be held at Gloucester on ye first of December next and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant Given under our hands and seals this 12th day of September Anno Dom 1698.

THO. REVELL
JOSEPH BRAMAN

September 1698 Term of Court

Hon. Jeremiah Bass, Governor
Thomas Revell, Sec'y
Nathan Westland
Joseph Braman
Mordecai Howell

Justices

Benjamin Braman, Sheriff
John Reading, Clerk

None of the Constables or Jurymen appeared at the September 1st 1698 term of Court. Steven Jones was appointed Constable during the sitting. All actions were continued to the term of

December 2, 1698 and the absent Jurors and Constables were fined ten shillings each, except Henry Johnson, Thomas Buckman, John String, Andrew Lock, Wm. Peterson and Matthew Mattson who were excused for several reasons.

December 1698 Term of Court

In December Thomas Revel, Char. Crosthwaite, Joseph Tomlinson, Mordecai Howell, John Somers sat as Justices.

Andrew Robeson was indicted for "ye speaking of several dangerous words and threatening language in contempt of ye present government."

William Warner was arrested by Sheriff Benjamin Braman by virtue of a warrant from Thomas Revell of Burlington. On September 3, 1698 Henry Treadway, John Tatem signed a bond for 200£ current silver money for the appearance of Warner at the next court, to be held at Gloucester, December 1st, 1698. The witnesses to the bond were Sarah Harrison, Elizabeth Tatem and Elizabeth Ladd.

Gloucester Court — December 1698

John Rambo forman of the Grand Jury presented Joseph Eastlake of Gloucester County and Ann Powell late of the county of Philadelphia for an unlawful marriage at the house of John Ashbrook at Gloucester on or about September 5th without any due publication according to the laws of the Province.

On the other side of this ancient paper is an account of an attack on William Arnold Constable which deposition is witnessed by John Tatham, Tho Revell and Nath. Westland.

March 1 1698-9 Thomas Revele, Joseph Tomlinson, Joseph Braman, John Somers and Mord. Howell sat as Justices.

Benjamin Braman, brother of the Judge, was present at Sheriff and John Reading as Clerk.

An iron pot of Thomas Sharp was seized and ordered sold because of his non-appearance as a juror.

Jeremiah Bate contended the sheriff was not a lawful one. He was ordered to find security for his good behavior or to go to prison for his contempt until such time that he should do."

Lydia and Ann Anderson, orphans of Claus Anderson, were bound until 21 years of age, to Thomas Norrice.

An Explanatory Letter

"William Warner High Sheriff for Ye County of Gloucester or his Dpty.

"Whereas the late accession of Col. Andrew Hamilton to ye government of this Province did occasion ye Commissions of former officers their respective posts to terminate and expire. By reason whereof ye several counties in ye said Province became destitute and wanting of Justices and other officers suitable for ye well governing of ye same and therefore as an expedient to supply that defect."

"This is in ye King's name and by ye authority of ye governor of this Province to require you That upon sight hereof you give summons to sufficient of good and lawful men of ye vicinage personally to appear (as Jurors) before his Majesties Justices of ye peace sitting a special Court to be held at Gloucester on ye twenty-fifth day of this instant January. In order (as well) to have ye Commissions of ye late elected Officers Published and ye Acts of ye last session of assembly

then and there promulgated, according to ye Laws and Customs of ye sd Province, as also for ye Dispatch of several other Emergencies, Relating to ye County of Gloucester and hereof fail making return hereof at ye sd Court and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant given under my hand and seal this 10th day of January Anno Dom. 1699.

JOHN HUGG, JUN'R.

Joseph Tomlinson was one of the Justices on the Bench Dec. 2, 1698, March 1, 1698/9, June 1, 1699.

A special Court (on ye accession of Col. Andrew Hamilton, to ye government of this Province) was held January 25, 1699/0.

The commissions of the Justices and other officers were read.

John Hugg, Jr., John Kaighn and James Whitall were present as Justices; Wm. Warner as Sheriff; John Reading, Clerk; John Wood, Coroner. Fourteen grand jurors were present.

No business was transacted but John Hedger was fined as an absentee juror.

March 1, 1699/0

A tax was ordered on land, cattle and other things at one-half of the rates of the former tax.

Wm. Chester and Matthew Warner were granted licenses at Gloucester.

The bills of Governor Bass were presented and action was postponed.

John Burroughs, orphan of John Burroughs, was bound to John Hugg, Jr., until he reached the age of twenty-one years.

The Grand Jury and Justices ordered a tax on land and cattle 1st, 1st month 1699/0 at one-half the rates of the former taxes. Archibald Mickell, as he spelled his name, was foreman of the Jury. Thos. Sharp and John Wood were treasurer of the tax.

First Coroner's Inquest

William Royden, Wm. Cooper, George Goldsmith, Wm. Bates, Jo. Atkinson, Robert Zane, Wm. Alberson, Tho. Dennis, Wm. Hunt, Richard Arnold, Jo. Ashton and Isaac Hollingham were impeaneled as jurors to inquire into the death of Easter Thackery, late wife of Thomas Thackery.

The verdict was the above mentioned jurors "do give their Vardett unanimously that upon the 5th day of the month called May 1688 the above men-

tioned Easter Thackery by the accidental landing of a Sturggon in the River Dillaware and falling upon the cornew that she was then in caused the same to fill with water and to turn over was the cause of her being drowned in ye river.

Will Royden, Foreman; John Wood, Coroner.

First Public Appraisers

Thos. Gardiner, John Bethell, William Alberson and George Goldsmith were appointed public appraisers at the second term of court held at Red Bank December 10, 1686. They were allowed five percent for appraisals and mileage of three pence a mile above two miles distance.

The First Ferry

At the Seventh term of Court held at Gloucester March 1, 1687/8 the Justices and Grand Jury granted the first ferry license to William Royden for a ferry between his house and Philadelphia at fixed rates.

The will of William Royden "citizen and grocer of London" was proved in England, January 3 1695/6. It was made May 20, 1692. See page 46 Penna. Magazine of History, Vol. 28. Royden evidently returned to London.

Seventh Day of November, 1696

Bond of Joseph Estlacke and Ann Estlacke (alias Powell) and Thomas Norrice.

Ann late of Philadelphia to appear at next Court March for not giving legal publication of their intent to marry.

Witnessed by

THOS. BULL
RICHARD BULL
JOHN READING

Sept. 2, 1700

John Reading agreed to finish the Court House, to lath and plaster it, fit up the gable ends and get his pay from the collectors of the former tax.

James Steelman was appointed overseer of the road from Waymouth township to ye place called Penny Pott.

Steven Jones was granted a license for an ordinary at his dwelling house on the Salem Road.

At a Court held at Gloucester on ye 2nd of December Anno 1700

Justices

John Kay
John Kaighn
Thos. Sharp

On ye Bench

Math Medcalfe, Sheriff

John Reading, Clerk

Persons returned upon ye grand jury

and attested

Tho. Thackara

Arch Mickle

Josh Lord

Thos. Shackle

Edw. Clements

Tho. Buckman

Jos. Collins

Edn. Burrows

John Hillman

John Roe

Nath. Zane

Stephen Jones

Peter Long

Jno. Tatem

Israel Ward

Stephen Newby

Erick Cock

The Court adjourns till 2 o'clock.

The Court returns and is opened.

The action of Phil. Paul against Robt. Parker is called and ye same continued till next Court.

The sheriff makes return of a writt of habere facias for ye putting Thomas Sharp into possession of a dwelling house with 307 Acres of land situate on ye north side of Gloucester River, which by ye Thomas duly executed and ye return thereof was approved by ye bench. The Sheriff also makes return of a writ against Thomas Smith and an attachment at ye suit of Andrew Heath and an attachment for ye goods of John Collins at suit of Alex. Bird which are likewise approved.

The sheriff makes return of writ executed upon five hundred acres of ye land of John Clark situate upon Great Mantua Creek at ye suit of Nathaniel Westland which ye bench likewise approved.

The grand jury returned and present Simeon Ellis executor to William Bate late deceased brings into courte ye last will of ye sd testator and craves a probate of ye same which ye clerk is ordered to give forth and take security for his faithful administration.

Taxpayers Ordered to Report

Property Owned

The bench orders ye clerk to give out warrants to summon in ye inhabitants of each township and place convenient in order to give in an account

of their estates and stocks in order to be taxed and choosing of assessors and collectors for gathering of ye personal tax as ye acts directs.

Philip Paul Called a Hog Thief

Garratt Von Ima being attested in open courte in ye matter of variance depending between Philip Paul, Plaintiff and Robert Parker, Defendant deposeth that he being present formerly at a town meeting at ye house of Benjamin Brammon did hear ye said Robert Parker then and there say and affirm that ye said Philip Paul was a hog thefe and that he would prove him out.

Edward Egelton being attested deposeth that being present at a town meeting at ye house of Benjamin Bramman on the 10th day of March 1697 did there and then hear ye said Robert Parker say that he knew no hog thefe in ye township except Philip Paul and he was one and that he would prove him out.

Delinquent Taxpayers

The bench orders ye clerk to give out warrants against all persons refusing to pay their proportion of the Courte tax to levy the same by way of distress to be had and taken of their goods and chattels.

The bench fines Roger Horskin ten shillings for refusing to serve as juror. John Bowley and John Rambo stand indicted to our Lord ye King in ye sum of forty pounds to be levied upon their goods and chattels, upon this condition that ye said John Bowley shall appear at ye next courte to be held at Gloucester on ye first of March next there and then to answer such things that shall be objected against him on ye behalf of our said Lord ye King and to abide ye determination of ye said Courte.

Witness their said hands ye second of Xbr 1700.

JOHN BOWLEY
JOHN RAMBO

In a suit of Philip Paul in 1700 versus Thomas Gardiner of Burlington it is disclosed Gardiner married the sole daughter and heir of Thomas Matthews.

William Warner used the letters W. W. enclosed in a wreath of dots as a seal when he was sheriff in 1697.

John Reading's seal was a cross of

two cylinders equal length and centered with a narrow flat base at each of the four ends. The cross was raised in the round wax impression.

Dozens of different wax seals are affixed to ancient documents of the county but whether they were seals of individuals is somewhat hard to determine.

The Honorable Andrew Hamilton, Governor, was present at the March 1, 1700/1 term of court.

Pay for Assemblymen

The Grand jury ordered that Assembly men who required pay for their services should receive three shillings per day since the 12th of May last with an allowance of one day going and another day coming provided they remitted what the county was in arrears for their service before that time.

Daniel Cooper and Thomas Kendall were indicted for selling liquors by small measure without a license.

Andrew Hamilton was appointed Governor by the Proprietors and the Assembly of New Jersey in 1700 claimed he should present credentials from the King of England.

Late in 1701 William Penn just before he sailed for England appointed Hamilton Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania. He died in April, 1703, much respected for his ability.

A special court was held March 24, 1700/1 but there was no business except a suit of William Alberson against John Eastlacke. This was an ejectment case won by default.

William Sweet was publicly whipped twenty-one strikes for breaking into the house of Sam'l Coles. Sweet was "bound out" to pay the costs.

Edward Eglinton was mentioned as of Billingsport in a suit against him by Philip Paul in 1697/8.

Priscilla, wife of John Smith of Philadelphia, on August 7, 1701 testified "that about five years ago she was present at the house of Garret Veneman where she saw the said Garrot married to her mother, Margaret Johnson by Andrew Robeson Justice of the County of Gloucester."

Susannah the wife of George Austin, of Philadelphia, attested before Edwd. Shippen, Jr., also of Philadelphia, August 9, 1701, that almost six years before she was at the wedding of Garrot Venemon at his house in Gloucester

County where she saw the said Garrot married to Margaret Johnson, by Andrew Robeson, then Justice of the Peace of said County of Gloucester. Mary Magdalen Cartwill, widow, made a similar affidavit.

Jacob Spicer sold the grass on the meadow upon Coopers Creek, known by the name of the Fast Landing, September 3, 1701 to William Tolbord. John Walker and Peter Sillton were witnesses to the document.

Mordecai Howell lived at a place known as Christianity. Benjamin Dewell lived at Apispony in 1701 both in Gloucester County.

Bounty for Wolves

John Roe and George Lawrence were each paid for the killing of a wolf out of the last county tax in accordance with the Act of Assembly.

A Stray Negro

December 1st, 1701 a vagrant negro taken up at Michael Buffin's house at Little Egg Harbor was produced in Court. Expenses in connection with the capture and custody of the negro amounted to nine pounds, eight shillings and two pence. The Court ordered that he should serve two years to any person who would pay the sum or if not so disposed of should remain in the hands of the Sheriff and work for his sustenance until such time as the owner or master of the slave should appear with proof of ownership and pay the sum above mentioned.

Nothing New in Taxes

The West New Jersey Legislature October 18, 1693 passed an act taxing land and cattle also hogs sold conveyed or disposed of at the rate of six pence a head dead or alive. This reads like the present-day processing tax.

June 1st, 1702

Thos. Gardiner

John Kay

John Hugg, Jr.

Philip Paul

Wm. Warner

Justices on the bench opened the court.

Matthew Medcalfe was sheriff and John Reading, clerk.

Thomas Sharp and Petter Long were commissioned as Justices, under the new commission, also John Ladd as Coroner.

John Rakestraw was presented for a clandestine marriage.

John Kay produced the will of John Brook.

Claim was made that Griffith Morgan detained Christian Bell, the wife of John Bell, as servant beyond the five year term expressed in a bill of sale from one David Evans. The Court ordered her to be set at liberty and that her husband give security for her appearance at next court to answer said Morgan further. Jos. Bate and Stephen Newby went on the bond for her appearance.

John Siddon had an execution issued against him for refusal to pay six shillings a part of the tax assessed against him in 1694.

On Sept. 1, 1702 John Champion was given permission to charge for ferrage two pence each for two persons together, three pence for one person, five pence for man and horse. These prices applied to all seasons of the year. On the same day the grand jury agreed that the lower road to Salem be upheld and that the bridge over Timber Creek be built without a charge to the County. This was the beginning of the King's highway as differentiated from the Burlington-Salem road which was not called a King's highway.

Elizabeth Bassnett married Thomas Gardiner and the two of them brought suit against Joseph Austell in December 1702 on his bond signed May 10, 1701.

Benjamin Dewell lived at Upton and removed to Salem County.

Samuel Paul, May 11, 1702, lost a black gelding horse in the woods; Mouns Mattson had possession of the animal and was sued for its value of twelve pounds current silver money.

Sportsman Killed the Wrong Hog

The Grand Jury Inquest for ye body of ye county of Gloucester upon their solemn attestation do present J. E. and J. B. of ye said County of Gloucester labourers for that they ye said J. E. and J. B. not having ye fear of God before their eyes but by ye instigation of ye devill being moved and shined up.

In or about ye 28th day of November anno Dom 1702 in ye first of ye reign of our sovereign Lady Anne Queen of England Scotland France and

Ireland, etc. at or in ye township of Newton in ye County of Gloucester aforesaid with force and arms one white barrow hog price two pounds being ye proper goods and chattels of Joseph Collins of ye said County of Gloucester Vis. then and there being did feloniously or unlawfully take steal kill and carry away contrary to ye peace of our said Lady ye Queen her crown and dignity against her magistys laws and ye laws of this province in that case made and provided.

Witnesses

Nath. Zane

John Rakestraw

Kath. Hollingran

Joseph Collins

The first day of ye first month 1702/3

We the grand jurrors for the County of Gloucester find this bill signed by our foreman Archebold Mickle.

A Queer Verdict That Changed the Penalty

J. E. and J. B. were adjudged guilty of stealing a hog.

"Whereupon ye bench considering that ye verdict doth not extend to any particular owner of ye hogg whereby a four fold restitution should be made. The Jury are requested to withdraw againe and consider of what punishment ye criminals shall undergo pursuant to a law of this province in that case made and thereupon they again withdraw and after some time returne and order that ye said E. and B. shall be whipped to morrow morning by 8 of ye Clock. Whereunto ye Bench assents and give judgment ye sd punishment of whipping shall be accordingly inflicted and that each of ye said prisoners shall receive fifteen stripes apiece upon their naked body at ye pillory on ye morrow morning, by eight of ye clock, and that ye Sheriff take them into safe custody in ye mean time and after ye punishment being inflicted and all costs of Court discharged then ye sd prisoners to be discharged and not before."

"The Bench order ye constable to make sale of ye pork in his custody make return whereof ye effects thereof at ye next Court."

Governor Bass Fined for Contempt of Court

"Jeremiah Bass for several contemptuous and reflecting, abusive expres-

sions used toward one ye Bench he is fined, for ye same ye sum of thirty shillings, and that a warrant be issued forth to levy ye same by distress in case he shall refuse to make payment of which upon his humble submission to ye Bench levy against ye same is remitted and forgiven."

Humphrey Mourrey, merchant, and Philip Howell, "Taylor," both of Philadelphia sued William Howy Feby 17, 1702/3

Edward Viscount Cornbury, Governor presided at a Council held at Burlington August 21, 1703. Those present were

Lewis Morris
Sam'l Jennings
Thos Revell
Daniel Leeds
Francis Davenport
Wm Pinhorne
George Deacon
Sam'l Walker
Wm Landford
Col Robt Quarry

It was "ordered that the writ for the election of members for General Assembly instructions be given to the sheriff to adjourn from County to County throughout each Division if a pole be demanded."

J. BASS
Clk. Cou'l

Elizabeth Haddon

The compiler likes to think of Elizabeth Haddon the outstanding woman of all times in Old Gloucester County. She and John "Hestow" according to the Quaker records appeared at the monthly meeting held at Newtown "Ye 13th day of ye 6 mo. 1702 ye first time" and "declared their intention of taking each other in marij. Elizabeth Kay and Eale Shakle ones appointed to make inquiry of the young womans clearness returne to ye next monthly meeting."

"At a monthly meeting held at the house of Thomas Shakes 12th of 9th month 1702, John Estaugh and Elizabeth Haddon, the second time declared their intentions of taking each other in marage and the meeting having received satisfaction concerning their clearness by certificates and also from those appointed to make inquiry concerning the same therefore give their consents to these accomplishing there said marage according to there fredom & truths order"

On the 1st., 10 mo., 1702 John Estaugh, of Gloucester County, and Elizabeth Haddon, of London were duly married at a public meeting held at her home in Haddonfield.

Between their first and second declaration of intention of marriage there was a period of three months. At her marriage she was mentioned of London. The chances are she and John had to wait for her certificate of clearness to arrive from England. Who knows?

Marriages and Births

Edward Burroughs and Mary Tanner by Richard Bassnet 23 6 mo 1690. Witnesses John Willis, Wm Willis, Thos. Penston, Anna Penston, Will Royden, Mord. Howell, John Hugg Jr., John Hollingshead, Daniel Reading, Eliz. Collins, Elizabeth Howell, Eliz. Coles, Sarah Harrison.

George Ward and Hannah Waywright November 16, 1697 by Thos. Gardner. Witnesses John Brown, Israel Ward, Wm Ward, John Tatum, Thomas Gibson, Isaac Wood, Chas Crossthwait, John Asbrook, Thos Bull, James Whiteall, Samuel Taylor, John Enno, Elizabeth Tatum and Susannah Waywright.

John Hillman and Margaret Ward by John Hugg, Jr., 6th day 1st mo 1693/2. Witnesses Francis Collins, Elias Hugg, John Kay, Sam'l Taylor, Edward Burroughs, Geo. Austin, Tho. Penston, Javace Key, Thos Buckman, John Ashbrook, Anthony Sharp, Jos. Collins, Jos. Hugg, Edm. Lassell, Henry Wood, Phillis Richards, Margaret Hugg, Mary Burroughs, Priscilla Hugg, Eliz. Collins, Sarah Pancoste.

John Seeds and Hannah Minor by Mord. Howell Jany 6 1703. Witnesses: Thos Bull, Richard Bull, Thos. Gibson, John Butler, John Reading Jr, Ann Gibson, Mary Goodfellow, Mary Reading, Mary Medcalf, Dorothy Medcalf.

Births

John son of John and Jane Burroughs born March 14, 1687

Margaret Ryland born Dec. 5, 1712

Jacob Ryland born Nov. 16, 1715

John Ryland born June 13, 1709

The three above were children of Jacob Ryland, recorded 19th 12 mo 1717.

June 1st 1703

Richard Bull was Deputy Clerk. The Grand Jury found no bills and no business was transacted.

At the end of the minutes of the court held at Gloucester June 1, 1703 John Reading, Clerk of the Court, wrote

"Here ends the Proprietary Government of ye Province of West New Jersey in America." and at this time his continuous clerkship ended. His original appointment was by the West Jersey legislature.

The Proprietary Government had ended in 1702 but the first mention of it was delayed in the Court minutes.

Kings and Queens of England

Charles I 1625-1649
Cromwell 1649-1658
Cromwell's Son 1658-1660
Charles II 1660-1685
James II 1685-1688
William and Mary 1689-1702
Queen Anne 1702-1714
George I 1714-1727
George II 1727-1760
George III 1760-1820

King Charles I of the Stuart line was born November 9, 1600 and was crowned King of England March 27, 1625, the day his father King James VI died, and King of Scotland June 18, 1633.

Charles I was executed January 30, 1649 by the Cromwellians. Cromwell and his son ruled 1649-60.

King Charles II was crowned King of Scotland February 5, 1649 and later King of England May 8, 1660. He died February 6, 1685 and was succeeded by his brother, King James II, April 13, 1685. He died Dec. 11, 1688. Their sister Mary married William, Prince of Orange. They ruled as King and Queen, beginning Jan. 13, 1689. She died Dec. 28 1694. He died March 18, 1702 and was succeeded by Queen Anne, crowned April 23, 1702.

It was generally understood that the date of February 6, 1649 was used in figuring the elapsed time in documents of the reign of King Charles II. The Cromwellian era was ignored by the Stuarts.

On October 3, 1691 a treaty was made whereby Ireland was joined with England and Scotland under William and Mary.

THE END

